

As hospital administrative workers' strike enters its third day:

Stinking toilets, filthy linen, no bandages

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL HASHOMER. — Toilets stank, dirty laundry piled up in the halls, garbage cans overflowed and supply cabinets were empty at Tel Hashomer's Sheba Medical Centre yesterday, the second day of the strike by administrative and maintenance workers at government hospitals.

With no workers to bring new provisions, the supply of pads and bandages for surgery, and of syringes and other equipment, ran out in some wards.

In the maternity ward, women under observation during the final days of pregnancy washed the floor yesterday morning

until one of them collapsed as the result of high blood pressure. She was rushed into the delivery room earlier than scheduled.

Family members brought patients food, and some took their sick relatives home for showers, because the hospital showers were filthy. "It's too disgusting to enter the shower here, and we can't use the toilets either," one patient told *The Jerusalem Post*.

Hospital administrative director Yisrael Hadari said that things were much worse than they seemed, because there were no maintenance workers for the air conditioning, heating, electrical and water systems.

The hospital hired taxis to take nurses to and from work and

an ambulance from outside to transport bodies of patients who had died.

Lunch for some 1,000 patients in the hospital was ordered from a private company specializing in food for airlines.

The emergency moves incurred huge expenses for the hospital, which is already in financial trouble.

Yesterday afternoon Peace Ship owner Abie Nathan came to the hospital with a truckload of fruit, vegetables and dairy products. But there was no one to deliver to food to departments spread across the hospital's 600-dunam grounds.

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Treasury seeks court orders as strike worsens

By JUDY SIEGEL
Post Science and Health Reporter

The battle over the government hospitals grew fiercer yesterday, with the Health Ministry opposing Treasury plans to seek restraining orders against striking workers, and the strikers threatening to keep high-school volunteers from entering the hospitals.

As the strike by 10,000 administrative and maintenance workers went into its second day, the director of a Pardess Hanna geriatric hospital said that his patients were "rotting in their beds."

Many patients were incontinent, and their sheets had been left unchanged because no laundry was being done, he told Israel Television.

But no deaths were attributed to the strike in the 33 government hospitals.

The strikers include kitchen and laundry workers, cleaners, support staff and administrative personnel.

Last night the Treasury prepared the documents needed to ask the Jerusalem District Labour Court for temporary restraining orders against the strikers.

But Health Minister Shoshana Arbeli-Almosino strongly objected to seeking court orders. She demanded that the Treasury reconvene the Padeh Committee to discuss wages with the 10,000 strikers.

The Padeh Committee is a government panel appointed in the early '70s. Its job is to ensure that workers in government hospitals receive the same pay as their counterparts in Kupat Holim Clalit hospitals. The panel met last week, after several years in which the Treasury did not allow it to convene.

Government hospital workers say their pay has fallen far behind that of Kupat Holim staffers.

The Treasury says the strike is illegal and refuses to convene the Padeh committee as long as it continues.

Strike leader Ronnie Shalem said last night that the workers would only decide this morning whether to honour restraining orders, if in fact they are issued.

Refusing to honour a restraining order constitutes contempt of court, and violators can be jailed.

Arbeli-Almosino met with representatives of the strikers at her home yesterday, and asked them not to intensify their sanctions. The strikers had threatened to prevent high-school pupils from entering hospitals to perform critical tasks like clearing garbage and serving food purchased from outside caterers.

The Jerusalem District Labour Court is to meet at 8 this morning to hear the Treasury's request for a temporary injunction to end the strike.

Just as workers were about to accede to her appeal, they learned from the radio of preparations in the Treasury to apply for a temporary injunction.

The angry health minister called Vice Premier Shimon Peres and asked him to intercede with Finance Minister Moshe Nissim to prevent the issuance of restraining orders.

Health Ministry sources said this would be the first time the Treasury applied for such restraining orders without the consent and against the advice of the ministry responsible for

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Leumi crisis:

Einhorn under pressure to quit

By PINHAS LANDAU
Post Finance Reporter

Bank Leumi's Chief Executive Officer, Mordechai Einhorn, is facing increasing pressure from disgruntled staff members who have been calling for his resignation.

This pressure comes at a time when morale at the bank is at an all time low and there are no signs of a breakthrough in the search for a new chairman of the bank's board of directors.

The Zadok committee, set up at the behest of Bank of Israel Governor Michael Bruno to investigate the salary, severance and pension payments made to former Leumi chairman Ernst Japhet, and to other senior executives, has been granted a further week to complete its task.

Bruno allowed the extension after outgoing Leumi chairman Eli Hurwitz explained to him that the committee, which only started work on Monday, needed extra time to sort through the mass of material it had assembled on the subject.

In the search for a new chairman, World Zionist Organization chairman Aryeh Dulzin has adopted a position as the champion of non-politicalisation of the bank. This has led him to reject several proposed candidates, on the grounds that they were favoured by politicians of one or other of the two major blocs, notably Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and vice premier Shimon Peres. These include ex-MK Zalman Shoval and ex-governor of the Bank of Israel Moshe Sanbar. Professor Haim Ben-Shahar of Tel Aviv University is another member of the Bank of Israel-approved list of "possibles" whom Dulzin has reportedly scratched because he is perceived as too close to the Labour party. Sanbar, however, is still in the running, and the fact that he is well-known abroad from his period as Governor, is seen as a factor in his favour.

On the other hand, the apolitical businessmen and economists that Dulzin has approached have been generally unenthusiastic about accepting a job that is seen as having far more risk than reward.

The Bank of Israel's own favoured candidate, former Tel Aviv Stock Exchange chairman Meir Heth, told *The Jerusalem Post* earlier this week that he was "debating seriously with himself" as to whether to remove himself from the running, in view of the problems the bank faces internally and externally, and the possibility of further skeletons still undiscovered in Leumi's cupboards.

Others, such as Chai Abdon Dovrat, are not interested in the role of non-executive chairman, as demanded by the Bank of Israel in its directive on the subject of bank boards of directors and chairmen issued eighteen months ago. This demanded a clear division of roles between the chief executive officer and the chairman — offices that Japhet had combined.

Einhorn, the Chief Executive Officer, worked well with outgoing chairman Eli Hurwitz, precisely because the latter has no desire to be involved in day-to-day management. Einhorn will certainly oppose the appointment of a chairman who he suspects will seek to encroach on his turf, and Einhorn's views have to be taken into account by Dulzin and the Bank of Israel, even if he has no formal standing in the issue of choosing a chairman.

But the complexities of the situation do not end there: Einhorn's own position — and possibly those of other senior executives — is thought to be in danger, if the allegations that until very recently he received a salary of \$40,000 per month would be substantiated. Leumi's works committees and middle management are thought not likely to accept that Einhorn preached wage restraint to them and ordered large-scale dismissals, while himself receiving a salary

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An Iraqi tank blazes at the approaches to Basra.

(AFP)

Kessar reports 'breakthrough'

By AVI TEMKIN
Post Economic Reporter

Histadrut Secretary-General Yisrael Kessar emerged from yesterday's meeting with Finance Minister Moshe Nissim confident that significant progress had been made in resolving the issue of government funding for Kupat Holim Clalit. Kessar said a "breakthrough" had been achieved, but refused to elaborate.

Kessar told reporters that Histadrut and Treasury officials would meet today to hammer out details of the proposed arrangement. If an agreement is finalized, the labour federation will sign the package deal between the Histadrut, the government and the employers. The row over the funds — totalling some NIS 150 million — for

Kupat Holim has prevented the signature of the accord.

But Nissim was far less enthusiastic than the Histadrut leader. He told reporters after the meeting that the government would act only in accordance with the terms of the March 1986 agreement between the Treasury and Kupat Holim Clalit. This agreement was based on a report prepared by Ya'acov Gadish, the Treasury's former budget director. Nissim has repeatedly said that he would agree to transfer to Kupat Holim only the sums stated in the Gadish report.

According to Treasury officials, Nissim did not back down in his talks with Kessar. They said the gap between the Treasury and Kupat Holim had narrowed because the Histadrut had agreed to lower its demands.

Haifa chokes on it

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — This city, which has the most polluted air in Israel, had its worst day on record yesterday.

The carbon dioxide level exceeded the maximum acceptable level by 50 per cent for four hours from 10 a.m. The cloud of dust and gases that covered the city for most of the day, caused particular discomfort to asthma sufferers.

The heavy pollution was caused primarily by an unusual meteorological condition called atmospheric "inversion," which keeps pollution from the bay-side industrial area from dispersing into the atmosphere, while an almost total absence of wind keeps the pollution hovering over the city.

A secondary cause was traced to the oil refineries, where one of two carbon dioxide recycling installations was out of use.

When the excessive pollution was first recorded in the morning by the city's monitoring station at Neve Sha'anun, both the refineries and the electric power station — another major polluter — were ordered to switch to low sulphur fuel.

Rabin talks tough to Arab university heads

By JOEL GREENBERG
Jerusalem Post Reporter

NABLUS. — Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin yesterday told West Bank university heads that their campuses had become the primary centres of unrest in the territories, and warned that Israel would not tolerate incitement to violence at the colleges.

Last night Rabin ordered that An-Najah University in Nablus be reopened. The university had been closed by military order for the past two-and-a-half weeks on the grounds that disturbances were planned at the campus.

Yesterday's meeting was attended by Hikmet al-Masri, chairman of the An-Najah board of trustees, Gabi Baramki, president of Bir Zeit University, Anton Sansour, head of the Arab Council of Higher Education and president of Bethlehem University, Nabil al-Jaabari, chairman of the board of trustees of Hebron University and Zuhair al-Karni and Mohammed Kutub, the president and director of the Abu Dis college. Rabin was joined by the coordinator of activities in the territories, Shmuel Goren, and the head of Judea and Samaria Civil Administration, Ephraim Sneh.

Baramki said the group had not

been told in advance it would be meeting Rabin, but was summoned to a meeting with "an important person."

After the meeting Rabin said that "in the last four or five months the universities have again become the centre of unrest in the area, more than any other institutions in the West Bank."

"We cannot afford to allow the universities to continue to be the source of unrest...to serve as a source of inspiration and instigation of violence and public disorder."

Rabin said that while the military would not interfere with studies or campus meetings, "political demonstrations whose purpose is to create general tension in the area" would not be allowed.

Rabin said he had not come to the meeting to threaten further closures, but Baramki said Rabin had warned the university heads that the authorities "can close the universities completely if need be."

Al-Masri said that though university officials were primarily concerned with academic studies, the political situation had created unavoidable tensions between students and the Israeli authorities. "Whenever there is occupation,

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Iraq holds as Iran pushes on

Post Middle East Staff
and Agencies

Iran, pressing its offensive against Basra, Iraq's second largest city, claimed yesterday it had set ablaze a petrochemical complex in the port, creating large clouds of toxic fumes. However, government sources in Washington said advancing Iranian troops had not broken through Basra's defences despite fierce fighting around the city.

Iraqi defenders might still be able to hold the Iranians at the outskirts of Basra, said one well-placed U.S. official.

"Nobody is able to call it definitively," the official said, summing up American intelligence analyses of the battle for the city.

The U.S. official dismissed Iranian claims Monday that its forces had broken through Basra's defences. But he acknowledged that "the Iranians have been able to inch forward a little. The fighting is fierce."

There could be "something big in the works," added another U.S. official.

Iran's news agency claimed that artillery shelling of the Basra chemical complex set fire to gas storage tanks and spread toxic fumes over an area of several square kilometres.

Iranian military communiqués reported that Iranian troops were only 12 kilometres from Basra yesterday. But Iraqi authorities said Monday night that they were in "total control" of the area east of Basra.

The fall of Basra, once Iraq's main oil export terminal, would be a major blow to President Saddam Hussein's government.

Iran's decision to concentrate its forces against Basra also appears to be a bid to force the cancellation of the Islamic summit due to start in nearby Kuwait next Monday.

In other developments, Iran fired a surface-to-surface missile into Baghdad yesterday, purportedly in an attempt to hit the headquarters of Iraq's ruling Ba'ath Party.

State-run Baghdad Radio said the missile killed several people in a residential area of the city. Iraq launched retaliatory air raids against four Iranian cities, the radio said.

An official Iraqi spokesman said planes bombed Qom — holy to Shi'ite Iran — as well as Isfahan, Hamadan and Tabriz.

The *New York Times* reported yesterday that Iranian warships were using Italian-made Sea Killer missiles in night attacks for the first time in the Gulf.

The significance of the new Iranian move, reported by U.S. intelligence officials, is that the missile attacks have come at night, the *Times* said. Gulf shipping previously could move and anchor safely at night because of the Iranian air force's inability to find ships in darkness.



Italian Defence Minister Giovanni Spadolini (wearing spectacles) arrives with his delegation at the Defence Ministry in Tel Aviv yesterday. (A. Bruttman/Media)

Spadolini calls for world conference on terrorism

By LEA LEVAVI
and JOSHUA BRILLIANT

Italian Defence Minister Giovanni Spadolini called for an international conference, to include both superpowers, to find new ways of fighting terrorism.

Speaking at a ceremony at Tel Aviv University, where he received an honorary doctorate, Spadolini said the civilized world may not be able to survive until the next century if terrorism is not stopped. Nuclear blackmail is a potential threat because simplified nuclear technology is within reach of well-organized groups, he pointed out.

"Considering that airplanes and cruise ships are a favourite target of terrorists, modern means of transportation are more dangerous than the roads of the late Middle Ages," he said. "Voltaire wrote in 1750 that what differentiates Europe from other continents is that diplomats can be sure of returning safely to their countries at the end of their mission. That is no longer true anywhere in the world."

Spadolini also spoke about Soviet Jewry. He said there had been encouraging signs in 1986 (including the liberation of Nathan Sharansky and the return to Moscow of Andre Sakharov), but there are still tens of thousands of Soviet Jews being oppressed.

Defence Minister Rabin said Spadolini's decision to resign from the (former) Italian government after the Achille Lauro affair had forced Italy to take a new look at its posture on terrorism. He also noted that Spadolini had visited Israel three times in the last two years, more than any other defence minister. "I want to thank you for what you symbolize," he told the guest, "and I want to thank Tel Aviv University for giving you this honor."

Spadolini also met yesterday with President Herzog at Beit Hanassi and discussed the Middle East and common economic problems.

Amnesty head hears Israelis on human rights

By MENACHEM SHALEV
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Some of the country's top leaders and attorneys met yesterday with Ian Martin, whose organization, Amnesty International, periodically issues reports condemning alleged Israeli human rights violations. They tried to impress upon him Israel's genuine concern for human rights and the complexities inherent in the battle against terrorist organizations.

Foreign Minister Peres told Martin, Amnesty's secretary-general, that his organization gives "disproportionate" attention to Israel. He said that Israel did not and would not allow inhumane or illegal treatment of captured terrorists, despite the terrorist organizations' massive campaign against it.

Martin, elected to his post in October, is currently on a four-day visit to Israel accompanied by two other senior Amnesty officials.

This afternoon, he is scheduled to meet the families of IDF soldiers who have been missing since the Lebanon War.

Yona Baumel, whose son Zecharia, together with Zvi Feldman and Yehuda Katz, has been missing since the June 1982 Sultan Yakoub tank battle, told *The Jerusalem Post* that he would appeal to Martin to join the efforts to secure his son's release.



Amnesty International Secretary-General Ian Martin. (G. Feinblatt/Media)

"Amnesty has taken up the cause of many people who have disappeared in other countries. They might also agree to be active for a few missing Jews," he said.

Baumel added that he recently received a report on his missing son from an "Arab source" who saw him as late as 1985.

The most recent Amnesty report on Israel alleged widespread torture and mistreatment of prisoners held at the Khiam detention camp in South Lebanon, which is run by the South Lebanon Army "under Israeli supervision." It also alleged that Israel tortured Adnan Mansour Ghannem, a suspected terrorist who at one time was held in Gaza Prison.

The Khiam camp was discussed in the meeting with Peres and in a later meeting with Defence Minister Rabin. Rabin pointed out to Martin that while Amnesty only deals with states, Israel's main battle is against terrorist organizations. Responding to complaints that some Israeli-held prisoners are not allowed Red Cross visits in the time specified by international law, Rabin pointed out that the IDF navigator who was downed over Lebanon four months ago has still not been seen by anyone. Rabin also asked why Amnesty had not dealt with the recent murder of Jews in Beirut.

Stockholm police interrogate 12 Kurds PKK suspected in slaying of Palme

STOCKHOLM — Police yesterday arrested three men suspected in last February's slaying of prime minister Olof Palme, but later said they would be released for lack of evidence.

Police refused to identify any of them by name or nationality. A statement from police headquarters said the three were picked up in a sweep of several people linked to the Kurdish Workers Party, a Marxist group known by its initials, PKK, which was declared a "terrorist organization" in 1984.

"The evidence situation is such that they will not be ordered held at the moment," Stockholm Chief Prosecutor Claes Zéme told a news conference.

Palme, 59, a four-term Socialist prime minister, was shot in the back and killed last February 28. The killing set off the biggest manhunt in Swedish history.

Police Chief Hans Holmér said 20 people, 12 of them Kurds, were arrested and questioned yesterday. The police statement also said three suspects were taken into custody in the 1985 slaying of a Kurdish immigrant in Stockholm. The statement did not make clear whether those arrested in the Palme case were the same as those accused in the immigrant's murder.

Of the 20, police said only three were directly suspected in the Palme slaying. Zéme later said a fourth man had admitted acquiring a firearm similar to the murder weapon, but the prosecutor said investigators doubted his credibility and he would also be released.

For the first time in public, Holmér acknowledged that his main suspicions in the case centered on the PKK, and added: "It is a part of the main lead we have been working on today."

Zéme, as he has done in the past, told the press



Olof Palme

(EPA)

he did not share Holmér's opinion about the PKK connection.

Although the Palme government declared PKK a terrorist organization, its members were allowed to remain in the country.

Two defectors from the party were assassinated in Sweden, one in 1984 and the other in 1985. The Palme government sentenced the assassins, both with alleged ties to PKK, to life in prison.

Holmér has said for months that police were close to solving the Palme case.

Recent Swedish press reports have concentrated on possible involvement by Kurd national-

ist activists that the PKK has been able to recruit among the estimated 7,500 Kurds in exile in Sweden.

The Social-Democrat *Aftonbladet* daily alleged last week that Abdullah Öcalan, a PKK leader, had ordered Palme's killing.

It said the shooting was planned in Syria and carried out by accomplices from France, with logistical support from members of Sweden's Kurd community. Swedish authorities refused a visa to Öcalan in 1983, *Aftonbladet* said.

However, Holmér has previously expressed scepticism about a "Kurdish connection," and has insisted that investigators keep an open mind on the killing.

Kurds in Sweden are so closely watched that it would be almost impossible for them to plot such a killing without being detected, he said.

The PKK, fighting for a Kurdish nation independent of Turkey, has been at the centre of the Palme murder investigation since the start. But the PKK has repeatedly denied any complicity, describing Palme as a "great friend of the Kurdish cause."

A spokesman for the national Kurdish Association in Sweden said that "we want democratic justice for the Kurdish people in Sweden. The police should not be carrying out this campaign against us."

Yesterday's news conference, the first held by the police since last spring, was staged under strict security at the Stockholm police headquarters, with heavily armed police in bulletproof vests guarding the massive complex.

Palme was shot dead by a lone gunman as he walked home through central Stockholm with his wife, who was slightly injured in the attack. The murder weapon has never been found. (AP, AFP, Reuters)

Deng: China needs to open up

PEKING — Top leader Deng Xiaoping, in his first public statement since the removal of Communist Party chief Hu Yaobang, said yesterday China should open up further to the outside world.

Hu resigned in disgrace last Friday because he had pushed for political reforms that were unacceptable, acting party chief Zhao Ziyang was quoted as telling a Hungarian delegation Monday.

The New China News Agency quoted Deng as telling Zimbabwe Prime Minister Robert Mugabe that China's successes in the eight years since he took over had been due to proceeding from its actual conditions and self-reliance.

"China's mistakes committed a few years ago were due to over-demanding and excessive speed, disregarding the country's realities. Our goals now are realistic and practical," he said, but he did not say what the mistakes were.

"If there are shortcomings in implementing our open policy, the main one is that China needs further openings," he said, adding that

opening to the world would not at all affect China's socialist system because China's policies are correct.

"We also educate our people to adhere to the four cardinal principles, and one of them is adherence to the Socialist road. This provides a fundamental guarantee."

The other three principles are support for the Communist Party, the people's democratic dictatorship and Marxist-Leninist-Maoist thought.

The official *People's Daily* (Renmin Ribao) quoted members of the National People's Congress standing committee as saying consumerism should not be the driving force of the economy.

Economist Xu Dixin told the meeting there cannot be total negation of central, mandatory planning as China shifts to a more market-oriented economic system, the report said.

The report quoted Xu as saying that the theory that consumerism can be the main force of economic growth in China does not conform to reality. Production, rather than consumption, is still the leading factor in

determining economic direction, he said.

Meanwhile, a Soviet-trained technocrat, an economic whizz kid and a man believed to have headed China's secret service, are the top candidates to fill Zhao's job as premier.

Diplomats said that as the party post was higher than that of premier, Zhao was likely to remain party chief, which would mean a new premier would have to be appointed sooner or later.

Chinese sources said Zhao might keep both posts for some time.

The new premier is almost certain to be one of China's five vice-premiers, but diplomats rule out the two most senior vice-premiers because of age.

Soviet-trained Li Pen was seen as the conservatives' candidate, economist Tian Jiyun was seen as the reformists' candidate and Qiao Shi as a possible compromise.

Diplomats said the front-runner was Li, 59 this year, minister of the State Education Commission and China's energy supremo, who trained as an engineer in Moscow. (Reuters, AP)

Bonn faces kidnap-hijack quandary

BONN (AP) — Bonn officials said yesterday the kidnaping of West German Rudolf Knappe in Beirut is linked to the Frankfurt arrest of an alleged TWA hijacker. But the officials declined to predict whether that could delay the suspect's extradition to the U.S.

The alleged hijacker, Mohammad Ali Hamadi, is wanted in the U.S. on air piracy and murder charges in connection with the June 1985 hijacking that claimed the life of one American.

"In the interest of the kidnap victim, we have been asked not to speculate on this," Justice Ministry spokesman Hennig Gehr told the Associated Press when asked whether the Beirut kidnaping could hold up Hamadi's extradition.

Bonn Justice Ministry officials had

predicted that Hamadi would be extradited to the U.S. very quickly, now that Washington has pledged he will not face the death penalty.

But Gehr said yesterday, Bonn Justice officials have not received in writing the U.S. promise that American officials would not seek the death penalty against Hamadi.

Cordes was abducted on Saturday in Beirut, just four days after Hamadi's arrest in Frankfurt.

Bild newspaper, West Germany's largest daily, said the government had made contact with the kidnappers and may send a special envoy to Beirut this week to try to secure Cordes' release.

Bild also reported later that PLO Chief Yasser Arafat was trying to make contact with Cordes' kidnappers.

"Arafat is trying to help," Bild quoted PLO Bonn representative Abdullah Frangi as saying.

In Beirut, British Church envoy Terry Waite said yesterday he had a second face-to-face meeting with the kidnappers of foreigners in Lebanon, and has decided to continue his latest hostage mission.

In a statement to a Beirut news agency, a mystery group, the "Supporters of God" demanding better conditions and the rapid release of two of its "brothers" held in an Italian jail, yesterday threatened the Italian defence minister and the governor of the prison in which the inmates are being held. The group also threatened to "kidnap, torture and kill, if necessary, every Italian citizen throughout the world and especially in Lebanon."

NEWS IN BRIEF

'100 million could die of Aids by year 2000'

LYNCHBURG, Virginia (APF) — One hundred million people could die of Aids by the year 2000 if no cure or vaccine is found by then, U.S. Surgeon-General Everett Koop has warned.

Speaking to students at Liberty University here, the educational stronghold of ultra-conservative preacher Jerry Falwell, Koop warned Monday night that the disease was spreading among the general population and was "uniformly fatal."

New York commuters face long rail strike

NEW YORK (AP) — Corporations chartered buses, arranged car pools and rented hotel rooms as New York braced yesterday for the first big test of the three-day-old strike against the country's busiest commuter rail line.

The strike against the Long Island Railroad, travelled during business days by nearly 150,000 commuters, widened late Monday as five craft unions joined the walkout. Eight unions representing about 1,700 of the railroad's 6,600 unionized employees are involved in the strike.

Gandhi urges tough action against terrorism

NEW DELHI (Reuters) — Terrorism is increasing in Punjab and the state's government should take "tougher and stern action" to curb it, Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi said yesterday.

He also said "the time is not ripe yet" for the imposition of direct central government rule of the north Indian state, where nearly 700 people died last year in violence set off by extremists fighting for a separate Sikh homeland.

He told a news conference that repatriation of the 1984 army action to flush out extremists from the Sikh holy of holies, the Golden Temple in Amritsar, was not yet needed.

But he added: "Arms are being stored in the Golden Temple." If necessary "we will take very harsh steps," he said.

Refuseniks demand Israeli passports

The High Court of Justice has agreed to hear a petition submitted on behalf of two Soviet refuseniks against Israel's interior minister, claiming that he has refused to issue them Israeli passports.

The refuseniks, Boris and Lea Chernobitsky of Moscow, have been trying to leave for Israel for 12 years. They were granted Israeli citizenship in 1980. Through their lawyer, Haim Rosensweig, they are arguing that the interior minister's refusal to grant their recent request for Israeli passports constitutes discrimination against them.

They claim in their petition that their situation in the Soviet Union would improve and their chances of leaving would increase if they had Israeli passports. (Itar)



Pharaoh Ramses from Memphis to Memphis

MEET RAHINA, Egypt (Reuters) — A 3,000-year-old colossus of the Pharaoh Ramses II, known as Ramses the Great, is on its way from ancient Memphis to Memphis, Tennessee.

Antiquities experts are putting the final touches to the huge statue in Meet Rahina, south of Cairo, which stands on the site of ancient Memphis, then the capital.

The 60-ton, eight-metre granite statue was discovered here in 1961, broken into more than 40 pieces. It lay partly submerged in water until last November, when restoration began.

Valued by Egypt's Antiquities Authority for insurance purposes at \$1.5 million, the statue has been rebuilt at a cost of nearly \$100,000 granted by a U.S. company.

It is due to be shipped to Memphis, Tennessee, where it will join nearly 70 pieces already touring the U.S. in an exhibition about Ramses the Great.

Greens draining SPD votes

BONN — When West Germany's anti-Nato Greens party entered parliament four years ago in a blaze of publicity, some analysts predicted the often fractious and unconventional environmentalists would be little more than a passing phenomenon.

But with opinion polls giving Europe's largest ecological movement between seven and 11 per cent of the vote in Sunday's general election, the Greens appear to have become a permanent fixture on the political scene to the detriment of the main opposition, the Social Democratic Party (SPD).

The SPD is campaigning in the unaccustomed position of fighting off a challenge from its left in the shape of the Greens, and the pollsters suggest that the upstart ecologists are siphoning off votes from the social democrats. "Every extra point the Greens win in this election will be at the expense of the SPD," predicted opinion pollster Klaus-Peter Schoepfer of the respected Ennabid market research institute.

The Greens entered parliament in 1983 with 5.6 per cent of the vote and the polls suggest they have gained support steadily, particularly among younger voters, after last year's nuclear reactor accident at Chernobyl and recent chemical pollution of the River Rhine.

Many of these younger voters would have previously supported the SPD, as the party's campaign manager Peter Glotz freely admits. "In the 1970s, the foundation of the Greens could have been averted if we had pursued more ecologically-orientated policies," Glotz told the

weekly magazine *Spiegel*. The SPD is expected to take around 37 per cent of the vote on Sunday, a clear 10 per cent behind Chancellor Helmut Kohl's Christian Democrats (CDU) and their Bavarian Christian Social Union (CSU) sister party, who are tipped to retain power in coalition with their liberal Free Democrat (FDP) allies.

A year ago the SPD was performing confidently in regional elections and its candidate for the chancellorship, Johannes Rau, was ahead of Kohl in the personal popularity polls.

But despite adopting policies which call for the phasing out of nuclear power within 10 years and an eventual removal of all U.S. nuclear weapons from West German soil, the party has failed to win over many first-time voters.

Rau, himself, although personally popular, has failed to win the hearts and minds of the voters of many of his party's traditional supporters outside North Rhine-Westphalia, where he is state premier. Many SPD supporters have complained that the party has devoted too much time and advertising space to promoting Rau as a family man rather than to explaining his policies, thus burdening him with the image of a lightweight in comparison to the SPD's last chancellor, Helmut Schmidt.

Some 75 per cent of SPD voters questioned in an opinion poll last week said they would have preferred Schmidt, who held office between 1974 and 1982, to stand against Kohl this time, instead of Rau. Schmidt has quit active politics.

The party's close links with the trade unions have also damaged its standing after the virtual collapse of Western Europe's largest public housing concern, the union-owned Neue Heimat, which received some 18 billion marks (\$9.6 billion) of public subsidies.

But the SPD's major problem is the lack of a suitable coalition partner which would give it a parliamentary majority.

Rau has ruled out a coalition pact with the Greens, saying that they are incapable of taking part in any government. The Greens for their part have said they are willing to enter into some form of cooperation with the SPD should the two parties poll over 50 per cent of the vote, but have imposed conditions the SPD might find it impossible to accept.

The SPD's leftward drift since losing power appears to rule out any chance of an agreement with the FDP, its coalition partner between 1969 and 1982, which has said it will continue its alliance with Kohl after the election.

The Greens, entertaining little serious hope of participating in government at federal level, can afford to take a more relaxed view of the future, although some of their leaders believe the often irreverent and squabbling movement must adopt a more serious profile.

For the short term, their aim is to become the first party to have more female than male deputies in parliament after January 25. In accordance with their policy of positive discrimination, they are fielding far more women than men candidates.

YOU'VE GOT 2 DAYS TO GRAB A GERA

Oded Gera is moving to his new fashion house, at 2 Habimah Square, Tel Aviv. On this festive occasion, a special sale will be held, in which all the stock in the existing shop will be sold with reductions up to 50%. The sale will take place Thursday - Sunday, 22 - 25/1/87. Opening hours: 10:00 - 22:00, at 25 Yirmeyahu St., Tel Aviv.

UP TO
50%
REDUCTION

Oded Gera



Soviets: Knesset brawl bad sign for democracy

By LEA LEVAVI
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The fracas in the Knesset on Monday gave Western democracy a bad name, the members of the visiting Russian delegation said yesterday morning. "There are more acceptable ways of expressing divergent opinions," geneticist Nikolai Butchikov, head of the delegation, said.

He and his colleagues — journalist Konstantin Gevandov (*Isvestia's* political commentator) and Soviet Peace Committee official Boris Makarenko — tried to play down Monday's incident. It may have been the highlight of their visit for the Israeli news media, they said, but for them the important thing was the opportunity to meet with Knesset members and others to talk about peace.

They have nothing new to say on the subject, however. The Soviet Union will negotiate with Israel on reestablishing diplomatic relations when Israel "shows willingness to undo the results of its aggression," they said.

In other areas, too, the delegation's answers were predictable. There is no anti-Semitism in the USSR, they claimed. "If you insist on calling any criticism of Zionism anti-Semitism, then Zionism can never be criticized," Gevandov said.

"There are many Jews, even here in Israel, who don't accept the Zionist ideology, so why can't we criticize it when we consider it reactionary?"

They denied that Jews face any discrimination in their country. Makarenko said there are more Jewish students per 10,000 of population in the USSR than in Israel, or than among other national groups in the Soviet Union. Charges that Jewish students are having a harder time getting into Soviet universities than in the past are propaganda, they said.

As for a claim made by Natan Sharansky during a gathering for Soviet Jews at Bar-Ilan University on Monday, that Jewish students in the USSR are forced to write anti-Zionist letters to the West to keep their places in university, the delegation reiterated the Russian allegation that Sharansky had been a spy and added that he now makes his living telling lies about his former country.

"Instead of getting your information from sources like Sharansky, you should listen to what Gorbachev himself says," Gevandov suggested. "He has pointed out that Jews number only 0.09 per cent of the Soviet population but comprise between 10 and 20 per cent of Soviet political and cultural life."

The visitors said they could not

discuss the new emigration regulations in detail because they were not sufficiently familiar with the material. They agreed with criticism in the Soviet press that there were still difficulties to be ironed out, but they believed the regulations would facilitate both emigration and immigration. Yes, they insisted in answer to a question, there are people who want to get in — namely people who left and now want to go back, including some Soviet Jews here.

"I don't get excited over questions about Ida Nudel or Yosef Begun or any of the others," Butchikov said. "In our country, everyone is equal under the law and people are punished for their crimes whether they are Jews or Cossacks or whatever. You Israelis think everything you do is wonderful and everything we do is the opposite. The question about the new regulations is the same thing: you always doubt our motives."

The fact that the Soviet Union has to import wheat and technology doesn't mean its system is not preferable to capitalism, they insisted. Butchikov said his mother, who was born before the revolution, always reminds her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren that villagers in the USSR today live better than the big landlord had lived under the tsars.



Judy Zimmet (Brutmann/Media)

Vanunu's friend tells of the man she knew

By MENACHEM SHALEV
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Mordechai Vanunu's girlfriend, Judy Zimmet, a registered nurse and midwife who lives near Boston, is a bit overwhelmed by being catapulted into the media limelight.

"I am a private sort of person," she says, "and this is a very tense time for me. But I want to do whatever I can to help Moti."

Zimmet came to Israel from the U.S. last week. She was told, she says, that she would be allowed to visit Vanunu in the prison where he is awaiting trial for revealing Israel's alleged nuclear secrets to the London *Sunday Times*.

But when she went to see Vanunu on Sunday, the prison chief told her that permission to visit had been withdrawn.

"It's so illogical," she told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday. "If they are afraid that he will reveal secrets to me, I am willing to cooperate, to sign any document, to do whatever they ask. I have no interest in breaking the law. Security is sometimes such a sacred cow here."

Zimmet lived in Israel for almost two years. "I came to learn about Judaism, about whether I wanted to live here," she said in July 1986 "with many questions which are still unanswered."

She met Vanunu "through a mutual friend" while working at Beersheba's Soroka Hospital. She recalls her favourable first impression of him: "He seemed to be quite a serious person, polite, nice and smart." She soon found out, she says, that Vanunu "has a strong social conscience. He was always concerned with ways to end discrimination against Arab students" at Ben-Gurion University.

Zimmet is angry at the "slanders and lies" that have been published about the former Dimona nuclear technician. "People who are supposed to be his friends have described him as being impotent, greedy, a loser — sort of a very negative character," she says. "Maybe they are expressing their anger at what he did by telling such stories."

Zimmet first heard about Vanunu's nuclear revelations while driving to the university where she is working on a master's in information systems. "A friend told me something about a man and atomic bombs, and as soon as I reached school, I ran to the library and found out from newspaper clips that it was Moti."

Zimmet then flew to London to look for him. She met with reporters of the *Sunday Times* who had been working on the Vanunu story. "They weren't sure what had happened to him. They said he had told them that he wanted to leave London for a couple of days, that he needed time...to think things over."

"Moti never talked about his work. I knew it had something to do with atomic projects. I had figured that out, but he only spoke of chemicals and controls. Many people were surprised when they found out that he worked in Dimona."

Vanunu, she says, "was always interested in religion, philosophy and spiritual things. He wrote to me from Australia that he had started to visit the church. I was surprised he didn't tell me that he had converted. But that's his own choice; he's an adult." She believes that Vanunu's trial "is not an open and shut case." Zimmet says that she has been "helping in his defence" by supplying "information and books" from the U.S.

She hopes the authorities will eventually let her see him, and believes she will then know more about her own personal plans. "We will see the outcome of things, and we will decide about our future," says the woman who was born and raised in Queens, New York, "in a Jewish neighbourhood and environment."

CORRECTION

Yesterday's report in *The Jerusalem Post* on the State Comptroller's findings on the universities erroneously ascribed mismanagement of contributions raised abroad to the Hebrew University. The reported findings, which included a sharp reduction in the amount of money raised, the borrowing of funds to make up for unrealized contributions and the transfer of contributions to outside recipients concerned the U.S. branch of the Friends of Tel Aviv University, and not as reported.

LOTTO. — In yesterday's national lottery draw, the following numbers were picked: 1, 25, 28, 30, 35, 36, and the additional number, 18.

'Renewed energy crisis threatening Third World'

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — Opec's oil prices, which have already done immense damage to the poorer countries, will harm them even more as they try to advance their economies. This is the belief of Sir Hermann Bondi, master of Churchill College, Cambridge.

"The industrialized countries can prosper without increasing their energy consumption because their future growth will be in electronics, communications, insurance, banking and education which do not need a great deal of energy," said Bondi, in an interview with *The Jerusalem Post*.

"The poor countries, on the other hand, must look to agriculture which needs irrigation, fertilizers, food storage and transportation, which are all energy intensive."

"So when the Third World calls for a change in the economic order, they refer to oil because it hurts them most."

Bondi, who has served as chief scientist of Britain's energy department, is giving a series of lectures at the Technion as part of an exchange programme between the Technion and his college, fostered by the British Technion Society.

At the other end of the pump, the lower prices Opec must now make do with are jeopardizing "whatever stability there is" in such countries as Egypt, Jordan, and Pakistan, which have been earning billions from the wages sent home by migrant workers

who got jobs in the oil-rich Arab countries.

"The oil-rich have learned that money is not the only thing that limits what you can accomplish. Saudi Arabia, for instance, has so many other constraints that after the money factor was removed, it still remained hamstrung," he said.

Bondi, who is 67, was born in Vienna and has lived in England since 1937. His public positions have included chairmanship of the National Energy Research Council, chief scientific adviser to the Defence Ministry and director-general of the European Space Research Organization. He was knighted in 1973 for his service in the Defence Ministry.

A mathematician and theoretical physicist, he specialized in the theory of gravitation. He feels that he "had some part" in dispelling the doubts that arose 25 years ago about Einstein's theory on the existence of gravitational waves. But he does not hold out the promise of a great new force to be harnessed by man. "The stars, which emit the gravitational waves, emit much more light, and how much can you do with star light?" he said.

His many years of public service have allowed him "to look at other questions too." He said that, contrary to the opinion of some experts that "work has become a scarce resource" and that there is unlikely ever to be full employment again, what technology is actually abolishing is only "mindless work." For

those sections of the population attuned to mindless work, this will be a great culture shock.

"We are facing the difficult and painful task of providing education for people who don't yet value it. Technology obliges us to accelerate the rate of change but we may not be able to do so, because cultural change doesn't come so rapidly," he said.

Already "we are providing education to all who want it, including those who could not in the past afford it. Now we are faced by those who don't want it and that's more difficult."

Advanced societies will have to pay more to teachers to speed up education. They will also have to pay more for "dirty jobs" because there is a limit to the number of guest workers they can get to do them.

"Our streets and trains are already dirty and we'll have to pay more and demand fewer hours for dirty work."

"There will also be a growing demand for nurses and personnel to help the increasing number of old people."

"There is already an enormous unsatisfied demand for workers in these fields, but the pay has not yet caught up with it."

"We shall be needing more educated populations, but are still not paying enough to our teachers, who will have to provide it," Bondi said.

The problem is not the future lack of jobs but society's rearrangement of priorities to pay for them, he concluded.

MKs host Argentinian 'mothers'

By ASHER WALLFISH
Post Knesset Correspondent

Mapam MK Chalka Grossman said yesterday that "Israel must help the relatives of Argentinians who disappeared without a trace under the former military regime obtain full justice."

Grossman spoke at a meeting between left-wing MKs and two leaders of the "Mothers of Mayo" movement, which speaks for the families of the *desaparecidos*, as the kidnapped and missing victims of the junta are termed.

The president of the movement, Hebe de Bonafini, who is visiting Israel as a guest of Grossman and the Kibbutz Artzi Mapam-affiliated organization, complained that the statute of limitations that comes into effect in Argentina next month will obviate all further trials against those who committed atrocities under the junta.

De Bonafini called for an international protest campaign to postpone the implementation of the statute until all the criminals are brought to book and the fate of all the *desaparecidos* is determined.

"The trials held so far were a mockery," she said. "Nine were charged, and four of them sentenced to life imprisonment. These four have been provided with luxury villas next to a prison, supplied with swimming pools, where they can live out their sentences along with their families."

"The junta hunted the *desaparecidos* down with the financial and logistic help of multi-national corporations working in Argentina."

"After our relatives were arrested, they were herded off in transport vehicles belonging to those corporations, and incarcerated on their premises to be tortured, interrogated and finally despatched to their deaths."

The MKs present, from Mapam, the Citizens Rights



Hebe de Bonafini at a 1983 demonstration of mothers of missing Argentinians in Buenos Aires. (Feinblatt/Media)

Movement and the Alignment, decided to establish an "association of friends of the Mothers of Mayo" to work in collaboration with some two score such groups in other countries on behalf of the Argentinian movement.

De Bonafini continues from here to Paris for an international conference of "associations of friends" who have vowed to put pressure on the Argentine government to delay the implementation of the cut-off law.

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THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL BANK

Crime down but drug use rising

By YORAM GAZIT
For The Jerusalem Post

TEL AVIV. — Police this week pointed to a 5.8 per cent drop in the crime rate during the past year, but warned that a continued drop was not likely.

Citing the increasing sophistication of criminals and the force's loss of some of its finest officers to better-paying jobs, Police Inspector-General Kraus said the police would not be strong enough "to protect society in future."

Kraus told reporters on Monday that the police did not have the resources to fight growing white collar computer crime.

"If a solution is not found for the small police budget [which is 1 per cent of the total government budget] the police force will be in danger," he said.

This year's police budget was cut by \$750,000; last year some 1,200 of the country's 17,000 police quit because of low wages.

In spite of the resignations, the number of rapes committed last year dropped to 226, from 270 the year before and 73 murders were committed, compared with 86 the year before.

But drug and drug-related offences rose sharply in 1986. Kraus said that property crimes which make up 77.7 per cent of the country's total crime, are directly related to drug use.

Kraus is also concerned about the increase in crime inside the Green Line by Gaza and West Bank residents.

As social problems continue, Kraus predicted, more police will be required to intervene. He cited the rioting that followed the murder of yeshiva student Eliahu Amedi in Jerusalem's Old City last year.

Kraus ended his talk with an appeal to the government for a larger budget to enable police to prepare for the future.

Abuhatzzeira season opens

By ANDY COURT
For The Jerusalem Post

On the spiritual calendars of many Jews in Israel and abroad, Abuhatzzeira season has begun.

Some 2,000 to 3,000 people are expected to arrive in Damanhour, Egypt to visit the grave of Rabbi Ya'acov Abuhatzzeira, who died 107 years ago today while on his way from Morocco to Israel.

Next week over 100,000 people are expected to come to the Negev town of Netivot on the third anniversary of the death of the Baba Sali, Rabbi Yisrael Abuhatzzeira. The Moroccan-born Baba Sali was Rabbi Ya'acov Abuhatzzeira's grandson. He lived in Netivot, where he received tens of thousands of visitors in the two decades following his uliya in 1964.

In the view not only of Moroccan Jews, but also of many Ashkenazi mystics, Ya'acov and Yisrael Abuhatzzeira enjoy a status akin to that of saints. During the traditional celebration held on the anniversary of their deaths, candles blessed by their descendants are auctioned for impressive sums.

"They are not exactly like Catholic saints, but they can perform miracles and they are considered intermediaries between you and God," said Yoram Bilu, a Hebrew University professor who has researched the Abuhatzzeira phenomenon.

Bilu and other experts say that the veneration of holy people is deeply rooted in Moroccan life, among both Moslems and Jews. But the elevation of Jewish holy men is an informal tradition, and makes some rabbis uncomfortable when it is carried too far.

Last week, during a celebration in Ramle preceding the pilgrimage to Egypt, cars and tour buses came from as far as Nahariya and Eliat, bringing some 5,000-6,000 people to the hall where the event was held.

Busloads of people continuously came and went, as waiters tried to guide their plates of chicken and bottles of arak through the hectic swirl in the mirrored, brightly lit hall.

A strange mixture of revelry and solemnity characterized the occasion. As they sat at one table eating, drinking and joking, the five burly Gabai brothers of Ashdod and Bat Yam resembled a sports team carousing after a match. But when Amiram, the youngest at the table, broke into arak-inspired song, he sang a spiritual chant with the inflections of a hazan.

THE UNIVERSITY OF HAIFA

Women's Studies Programme
The public is invited to a lecture

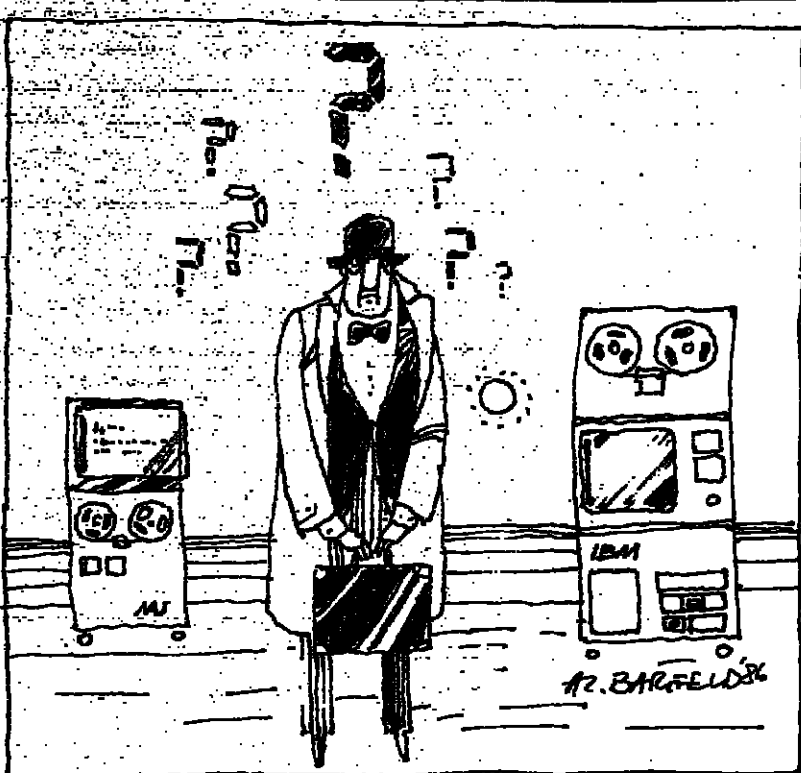
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Lecturer: Haviv Avi-Gai, Adv., Chairperson,
Dept. of Status of Women, Na'amat,
City Counsellor, Tel Aviv-Yafo

Thursday, January 22, 1987, 2-4 p.m., room 715 in the main building.
Sponsored by Women to Women USA/Israel. Lecture in Hebrew.

Brain drain

Doron Pely



COMPUTER keyboards are almost noiseless, but computer printers, especially if there are many of them in the same room, can make a real racket. A company in Kiryat Bialik believes it has the solution.

Oranim Silencers Ltd. has introduced a desk combined with a printer silencer, and claims it is the first in the world to incorporate a built-in silencer in a work station.

In independent tests by Israel Aircraft Industries, Oranim's silencers reduced printer noise more than any other, to lower than 44 DBT. Since the printer noise is reduced to a whisper, there is no need to keep the printer far from the work place.

Oranim sells its products to many of Israel's military industries, and did well in breaking into the American market by presenting its wares at the Comdex exhibition in Las Vegas.

A REVOLVING computerized chair, used to diagnose problems in equilibrium, has been installed at Rothschild Hospital in Haifa.

The "friends association" of the hospital purchased the chair, an import from West Germany, and installed it in the institute of neurology.

Prof. Ludwig Fudushin of the ear, nose, and throat department said the computerized chair will not only detect the reasons for problems in the sense of balance, but may also discover deafness in infants.

A similar chair exists in the Air Force, and there are some in the Israel Navy, but this is the first to be used in the civilian sector.

A COMPUTER screen that is said to be easier on the eyes than all the others is being manufactured by Telos Ltd. in Tel Aviv.

The screen doesn't use the electronic "gun," but is based on the principle of electric stimulation of a sensitive liquid, and is thus called the "plasma screen."

The display box is thus thinner than the regular screen, and it can be read easily, says the company, in full sunlight and from all angles.

Telos, located at the Atidim Scientific Industries Park, says the plasma display terminal is suitable for all computers, and greatly reduces eyestrain caused by the "bombardment" of electrons on a regular screen coated with a chemical material.

AN OFFICE needing a laser printer and a copying machine can buy one machine that performs both functions.

The January issue of *Popular Science* reports on the new product made by Xerox. In its copy mode, it creates letter or legal-size, black-and-white copies of originals. In its printing mode, it becomes a high-speed, high-quality laser printer that serves up to five computers at the same time.

Capable of being hooked up by a cable to your computer, the Xerox 4045 CP costs \$5,395 in the U.S. It can store up to 90 different print

styles (fonts) and up to 22 of them can be printed on a single page. It uses a laser beam to draw characters on the drum of a xerographic copier, which then rotates to print an entire page at once, and is thus very quiet. It also produces 10 pages of copy a minute. But at that price, it is clearly meant for business use.

BY THE next decade, cars will respond to their owners' voice, not only locking doors, turning on the radio and turning off the security system by voice command, but also setting speed and running a kind of "automatic pilot."

Popular Science reports on the electronic chip SP1,000, produced by General Instrument Corporation. Pilot cars have already been designed that allow you to tell the car to cruise at 60 kph, accelerate to 70 and coast down, without touching a foot pedal.

The device can be trained to recognize the voice of the driver, as well as that of a second voice. The chip stores a number of standard commands, in your voice, as digital information, and responds only to these "authorized" voices.

There are, however, some bugs in the system. If there is too much noise in the car, such as wind rushing into an open window, or a radio playing, Audiocruise may have difficulty understanding its owner's voice. Also, it might not recognize the voice if the owner has a cold or sore throat or is a little nervous.

Auto manufacturers will surely not install the system until they're sure it won't lead to an accident. The manufacturers say the voice-command system is safer than conventional driving, because you keep both hands on the wheel and eyes on the road.

When it is installed, it should add some \$200 to the price of an American car. But a date for its introduction has not yet been set.

AN IBM36 computer is helping Avna'al, an Israeli shoe company, keep tabs on the most popular styles, colours and sizes bought in the stores.

A bar code will soon be attached to every pair of shoes offered for sale in Avna'al stores. It will be glued onto a special form and sent to the IBM computer at the company's headquarters when the pair is sold. Mistakes are sometimes made when clerks mark the shoe code by hand, but the automated system will allow no errors.

THE SAME IBM computer is helping a chain of dental health stations to follow up dental care of 400,000 people getting treatment at the Dental Health Institute clinics.

Not only will it keep records for the insurance company covering some of the patients, but also helps the dentists order any of 1,000 dental supply items before they run out. It will also remind patients when to come in for their next six-month checkup.

defects such as scratches on the surface of a crystal do not disable it.

The photorefractive effect — a change in the refractive quality of the crystal — is considered the most promising way to store information on high-speed memories. Experimental holographic memories have been built and are currently being investigated by a team of scientists at the Hebrew University. Until now, research has been supported by the U.S.-Israel Binational Science Foundation. Further studies are being supported by the Israel National Council for Research and Development.

A NEW "Hebrew-speaking" programming language has been developed by "248 Computers," a local company.

The language, called "Bessisit," is used to create programmes for micro-computers. Unlike existing programming languages, using Bessisit does not require any knowledge of English since its entire vocabulary is in Hebrew.

The new language is similar to the English-based "Basica," and contains all the regular features and commands of its English counterpart. It can be operated from IBM personal computers and their compatibles, and retails for about NIS 200 including a user manual — in Hebrew, of course.

NEW WORLDS

Judy Siegel-Itzkovich

THE SMALL advertisement in the want-ad section of *Anashim Umahshevim*, a computer industry weekly, read: "Experienced computer programmers wanted for work in England... Send resume to P.O. Box..." For the next five weeks, the newspaper's editorial offices were inundated with hundreds of phone calls from curious jobseekers, all willing to pack up and leave Israel in search of work.

Another advertisement in *Ha'aretz* invited "experienced computer programmers to apply for jobs... in the New York area." An acute shortage of computer professionals in certain segments of the industry in America is sending recruiters scurrying for potential employees, and Israel is a good source.

Nobody knows the exact number of computer professionals that have chosen to work outside Israel, but, according to *Anashim Umahshevim*'s editor, Daniel Bielsky, hundreds of Israeli programmers work in America, Canada and Australia.

The slump in Israel's computer industry, coupled with a flood of new graduates from universities and colleges, has brought an end to the golden age of the programmer. Inexperienced computer programmers, fresh out of school and eager to prove their skills, find themselves in a Catch 22 paradox: without experi-

ence they have little chance of finding a job, yet with no entry-level jobs available there's nowhere to get that all-important experience. Seasoned professionals have to compete in a market where supply is greater than demand. Large companies are not hiring, and many small companies live on the brink of bankruptcy.

With jobs scarce at home, Israelis are looking elsewhere for work. Elsewhere for these disenchanted computerniks means America, Australia, South Africa, England, or any other country willing to pay well and offer a chance to work in a profession which until three years ago was considered an unemployment-free zone.

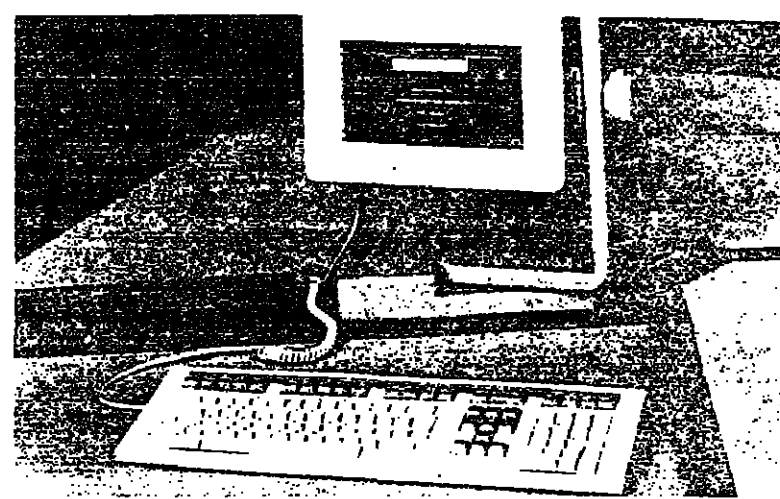
Industry observers are not surprised at the outward flow of computer professionals. A talented computer programmer in America can command a starting salary of \$30,000-\$40,000, and pay far less tax than in Israel.

Nat Gordon, whose employment agency placed the advertisement in *Anashim Umahshevim*, refused to divulge the number of responses he got on his ad for work in England, but said "it was large."

"We were looking for people with three to four years of experience, but we got a lot of calls from people with little or no experience," he said.

Gordon does not believe England will draw many Israeli computer professionals. "The market in England for outside computerniks is coming to an end," he said. "British universities are currently supplying the demand, salaries are not much better than in Israel, and getting a work

How to stop that racket



The computer screen easier on the eyes.

permit even for a period as short as six months is very difficult. We are not looking for any more people."

GOING OVERSEAS to work in high-tech projects is not all bad news for Israel. Uziya Galil, general manager of Elron corporation and considered the "father" of Israel's high-tech industry, tries to stress the potential benefits resulting from this flow, given, of course, that those leaving Israel return.

"Those of us who work overseas for a while develop contacts with foreign counterparts and acquire valuable knowledge which can be put to work for the benefit of Israeli industry," says Galil.

Still, Galil admits that computer professionals' departure for jobs overseas is a problem, but he claims that the trend can be reversed if steps

alter our basic concepts about the nature of world industry, we'll be in deep trouble. Israeli industry has no future unless it starts understanding that the world is changing around us."

The search for overseas jobs is not limited to unemployed programmers. Experienced computerniks, working for Israeli companies with European or American connections, use their contacts to try to arrange for themselves "tours of duty" outside the country, for work in projects where their expertise is appreciated both professionally and financially. Some return to Israel at the end of their contract, but many find life overseas pleasing enough and can be written off as a loss by Israel.

The high-tech industry in Israel has taken concrete steps to recruit selected individuals and bring them back. Employment fairs in America and Canada, organized by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and Israeli companies, drew considerable attention, though the number of actual returnees has been few.

The slowdown in Israel's high-tech industry is not over and most forecasters don't see the light at the end of the tunnel during 1987. So long as computerniks find it impossible to work here they will look for jobs elsewhere and Israel's pool of trained professionals will suffer a blow that will be hard to recover from. If, as our captains of politics and industry repeatedly decree, we are to exist by our wits and technological know-how, we should do something to keep that know-how home. And fast.

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Haifa
Open to 8 p.m.
- **TALPIOT**
Jerusalem
Talpiot Ind. Zone
Open to 8 p.m.
- **GIVAT SHAUL**
Jerusalem
Givat Shaul B
Open to 8 p.m.
- **BEERSHEBA**
Ha'aranim St.
Corner Ben-Gurion
Open to 8 p.m.

COMPUTER BRIEFS

Doron Pely

A NEW kind of photorefractive effect has been discovered by two physicists at the Racah Institute of Physics at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem's Faculty of Science. With further work, this effect, discovered by professors Yizhak Yaacoby and Aaron Agranat, may be used for the development of holographic computer memories and other optical computing devices.

In contrast to ordinary disk or tape-based computer memories, where the information is stored on a magnetic film coating, holographic memories will store the information on special crystals. A laser beam will be used to store and retrieve information from the holographic memory.

A hologram is a two or three-dimensional representation of an object. It enables a complete reproduction of the form of the original body. The photorefractive effect enables a hologram to be "written" into a crystal.

Holographic memories can store enormous amounts of information, both text and graphic. A single flash of a laser beam can store and retrieve this information in parallel. Physical



(Ralph Crane/Camera Press)

Other smaller groups are also trying to keep channels open to Fatah but they too expect Arafat to cancel the Amman Accord — in deeds if not in words. These smaller groups cannot afford to interpret the Prague Declaration too liberally as Habash has already criticized them for giving in too much and reaching a "deplorable" and politically weak agreement. Palestinian unity thus remains in shambles and it appears that it will take more than a camp war to get it on the road again.

مکملہ اعلیٰ

BASKETBALL

Holon thrash Maccabi Tel Aviv

By DON GOULD

TEL AVIV. — Hapoel Holon 85, Maccabi Tel Aviv 66. The score speaks for itself. Not since 1962 when Hapoel Tel Aviv thrashed Maccabi Tel Aviv 60-36 have the national champions taken such a pasting in League action. Maccabi, just back in Israel after a brilliant second game victory over Soviet champions, Zalgiris Kaunas in the European Cup, felt pained for this Thursday's important game against Real Madrid at Yad Eliyahu. They forgot, especially in the second half, that league opponents Hapoel Holon are not a team to be toyed with, particularly when playing before their partisan crowd in Holon.

The first half of the hot-tempered game gave every evidence that Maccabi Tel Aviv, although in for a battle, were on their way to their 18th straight league victory. Before five minutes had passed, Holon's Desi Barmore and Maccabi's Doron Jamchee had to be separated in a shoving duel. That was only a signal of what was yet to come. Maccabi led throughout the game with 6:40 showing on the clock in the first half and Maccabi up by 32-25. Holon's Kenny "The Animal" Bannister and Maccabi Tel Aviv's Greg Cornelius began to trade punches for real. Contact had been fierce underneath the boards and both men came out throwing punches. Neither man would give way to the other in what looked more like a boxing fight than a basketball game. Maccabi's Kevin Magee got involved when he tried to separate the two fighters, but Cornelius and Bannister, the main protagonists were both removed from the game. Each had been on the receiving end of some vicious punches thrown by the other.

At that point, with Bannister missing, Maccabi seemed to have the



ANIMAL INSTINCT. — Kenny Bannister and Greg Cornelius resort to punches after a hard fought duel on the backboard. (Guthmann)

game in the bag. They went into the locker room at the interval sporting a 46-38 lead.

The second half was an entirely different ball game. Instead of quitting, Hapoel Holon came out fighting ferociously. They put the smaller Barmore on Magee and Maccabi didn't adjust by trying to get the ball to the inside men. That type of lack of tactical reaction to court events by Maccabi's coaching staff when they face Real Madrid could put the final nail in Maccabi Tel Aviv's coffin in this year's European Cup competition.

Lee Johnson got in foul trouble and suddenly the absence of Cornelius was felt. Israel Elimelech playing the game of his life began to get past Maccabi's Chen Lipin as if there

was no defender at all and he either dished off to the open man when Maccabi's big men moved to help out, or he went straight to the hoop when the way was clear. Maccabi for their part did not bring their offence close to the basket and Jamchee and Berkowitz took turns missing from long range. The end result was that Maccabi scored only 20 points in the entire second half while Hapoel Holon went on a 47 point rampage. Desi Barmore collected 22 points, James Terry 21 and Israel Elimelech 16 to lead the way. Johnson and Magee had 23 and 22 respectively and were top scorers for Maccabi.

Maccabi Tel Aviv are still four points clear at the top of the table and Hapoel Ramat Gan are almost certain to wind up bottom. But aside from the very top and the very bottom the rest of the league remains wide open. With their victory, Hapoel Holon moved into a

tie for second place with Gali Elyon as the latter were also victims of a second half barrage by their opponent Maccabi Haifa. Gali Elyon led at the break 56-45 but were outscored by Maccabi Haifa in the second half and came out on the short end of a 108-85 score. Veteran Steve Schleier's fine all-round play led the winners attack and helped Maccabi Haifa to hold on to sixth place in the league standings.

Hapoel Ramat Gan sank deeper into the dead end of last place and relegation when they lost their derby match to Maccabi Ramat Gan 88-91. Maccabi for their part needed the victory desperately to further their chance of avoiding the second relegation spot. John Thomas with 31 points led the winners' attack.

Newcomers to the National League, Hapoel Eilat, overtook a heavily depleted Hapoel Tel Aviv team 96-93 in a run and gun match at Ussishkin Stadium. Gali's victory further enhanced their chance of avoiding relegation and even put them into contention for the eighth and final playoff position. Alan Hardy netted 28 to pace the winners, while Laron Mercer's with 21 led Hapoel Tel Aviv's victory.

Hapoel Haifa, yet another team locked in the double battle of trying to get into the playoffs and to avoid relegation, fell five seconds short in their away game against fourth place Elitzur Netanya. Haifa had 58-57 when Elitzur's Willie Sims was a field goal before the closing whistle to seal the victory. Steve Malovic with 31 points topped the winners.

Standings after 18 rounds

	W	L	Pts.	Pts. against
1. Mac. T.A.	(17)	1	197	143
2. Holon	(13)	5	167	151
3. Gali Elyon	(13)	5	164	165
4. Elitzur Netanya	(12)	6	173	162
5. Hapoel T.A.	(11)	7	158	167
6. Mac. Haifa	(10)	8	167	163
7. Hapoel Haifa	(9)	9	150	168
8. Gali	(9)	9	152	164
9. Hapoel Haifa	(8)	10	137	160
10. Mac. Ramat Gan	(10)	8	150	173
11. Hapoel Jerusalem	(11)	7	150	167
12. Hapoel Ramat Gan	(12)	6	176	180

* This round positions

AUSTRALIAN OPEN

Wally wallops boorish Boris

MELBOURNE (Reuters). — Wimbledon champion Boris Becker made a premature and ill-tempered exit from the Australian Open Tennis Championships yesterday. He was outfought over five sets by Australian Wally Masur, ranked 71 in the world, well-known and well-liked in Israel.

The second-seeded Becker, who was eliminated in the first round here 13 months ago by Dutchman Michiel Schapers, was beaten 4-6, 7-6, 6-4, 6-7, 6-2 in the fourth round yesterday. There was also a surprise in the women's quarter-finals. Catarina Lindquist beating the No. 3 seed, Pam Shriver, 6-3, 6-1.

The West German teenager, furious about his unusually wayward serving throughout the match, shouted continually at himself, line officials and umpire Wayne Spencer, and frequently slammed his racket on the court.

Return, Spencer handed him two code violations — in the second set, for receiving coaching, and in the fourth, for time-wasting.

Becker saved three match points in the tense fourth set tie-break, winning it 11-9 to level the match. He broke Masur in the opening game of the final set and looked set to take control.

But the gritty Masur, returning with pinpoint precision, broke Becker in the fourth and eighth games to clinch victory. Becker double-faulted to give Masur his fourth match point, then double-faulted again to cede the match. Becker was at a loss to explain afterwards what had happened. "I don't know what it is. Maybe there is something in the air in Australia," he said. "I can't play and I'm losing my head. I'm doing things I am not normally doing. I couldn't serve or return. Suddenly I started losing my cool, my temper. Then I got bad calls and it made me com-



TRIUMPH AND DEFEAT. — Wally Masur looks cool and calm — his usual self — while Boris Becker looks unusually dejected after his defeat by the Australian in Melbourne yesterday.

pletely crazy. I lost a match I had won three times already."

Becker criticized the umpire, who seemed to observers to go out of his way to be fair to the young German.

As Becker recovered his composure, he paid tribute to Masur and put the loss into perspective.

"Wally is a good player and he played well. He's steady. You have to beat him. And I didn't."

"I just couldn't hold my nerve," he said. "I'm disappointed, sure, but I'm still alive. I just lost a tennis match. I'm not going to prison or anything."

Masur, winner of the South Australian Open earlier this month, now faces unseeded Kelly Evernden of New Zealand who beat Derrick Rostagno 6-7, 6-2, 6-4, 5-7, 7-5. "I feel I'm turning the corner, becoming a winner," Masur said. "I'm more willing to grind it out. I have more desire. I'm maturing physically as well as mentally."

Masur was angered the umpire

had not penalized Becker for some of his antics.

"I don't think he took control of the match," he said. "He let things slide that shouldn't have been allowed."

Masur said that even before the match he had felt Becker was far from unbeatable. Masur's doubles partner, Brod Dyke, had taken Becker to five sets in the second round.

"He seems very nervous, very flippant," Masur said. "At times he shows his age."

Australia's Pat Cash butted his way to a hard-fought, five-set victory over American Paul Anconino.

Cash, cheered on by his hometown fans, led two sets to love, but then had to hold off a charge by unseeded Anconino before triumphing 6-4, 6-1, 6-7 (4-5), 1-6, 6-2.

Third-seeded Frenchman Yannick Noah rallied from two sets down to defeat 14th-seeded Tim Wilkison (U.S.), 4-6, 4-6, 6-3, 6-4, 6-2. Second-seeded Hans Mandlika romped to a 6-0, 6-0 triumph over eighth-seeded American Lori McNeil and will face fifth-seeded West German Claudia Kohde-Kilsch in the semi-finals. Martina Navratilova was far too strong for Zina Garrison, and won with ease 6-0, 6-3.

LAWN BOWLS

Season ending with a flourish

By JACK LEON

TEL AVIV. — The Israel Bowls Association's 1986 tournament season is winding up with a flourish, after some delays caused by the recent wet weather. Now in their final stages at greens across the country are no less than six national championships, contested by nearly half of the country's 750 active bowlers.

An indication of the growth of the game here is that many sabras are among the 90 men and 28 women participating in the fourth annual novices singles championships.

notes the IBA's Levy Carasso. This event is only open to people who have not played bowls for more than three years.

The inaugural selected pairs tournaments attracted 160 men and 106 women, while the annual veterans (over-45) competitions have a total entry of 63 players.

With national competitions having been held almost continuously since last June, this makes the bowling season now ending by far the busiest since the establishment of the IBA in the mid-1950s. Along with the national events, local tournaments take place during most of the year at the IBA's six affiliated clubs — Haifa, Kfar Hamaachab, Netanya (Wingate Institute), Ra'anana, Ramat Gan and Savyon. The association's 1987 tournament season is due to begin in April.

RUGBY

On-field death leads to boycott

CARCASSONNE, France (AFP). — The death last week of a French rugby league player has resulted in his team-mates refusing ever again to play against their opponents in the tragic game.

The Carcassonne team are also boycotting the French championship with immediate effect until they are given guarantees on a list of demands, notably concerning the fight

against violence on the pitch, the presence of emergency services at stadiums and injured players being allowed immediate treatment without the referee's permission.

Jean-Francois Dare, Carcassonne's 32-year-old centre, died in hospital in Toulouse without regaining consciousness after suffering a brain haemorrhage and going into a deep coma following a tackle in a match against XIII Catalan, from Perpignan.

Although the player's family has not lodged a complaint, the public prosecutor here has opened an inquiry, seized all film and photographs of the game and ordered a post mortem to determine whether any earlier rough treatment of Dare might not have weakened him physically before exposing him to the fatal tackle.

ENGLISH SOCCER

Police clamp down

By DAVID HOROVITZ

JERUSALEM Post Correspondent LONDON. — British soccer came in for a pounding from the authorities yesterday, as the police launched their biggest ever crackdown on hooligans, and the players themselves were ordered to fight the spread of Aids by putting a stop to on-field bashing and post-match communal bathing.

The 250-man police swoop, code-named "Operation Full-Time," brought the pre-dawn arrests of 25 of the country's worst alleged soccer thugs, all supporters of West Ham United and Millwall.

These two sets of fans have long been known to be among the most violent in the country, and the police have used closed-circuit TV at

matches and undercover surveillance in a five-month effort to identify the ring-leaders.

Among the items confiscated in the raids yesterday were a spiked ball and chain, numerous air rifles, rubber hoses and flick knives. The 25 arrested face charges of conspiring to cause an affray, for which there is no maximum penalty.

The Football Association, meanwhile, is attempting to crack down on Aids, sending a warning letter to all clubs yesterday advising against communal bathing, kissing and cuddling on the pitch, the sharing of celebratory bottles of champagne, and even the trainer's use of the traditional bucket and sponge to revive injured players. Several doctors have called the FA action "over the top," believing that the FA is misleading players as regards Aids, in which the Aids virus can spread.

LONDON (AP). — English Second Division club Bradford City earned lucrative match against Tottenham Hotspur in the FA Cup third round match.

Amos is 37 on ATP computer

By JACK LEON

TEL AVIV. — Amos Mansdorf ended 1986 in 37th place in the Association of Tennis Professionals world singles rankings, having climbed 47 rungs up the ladder during the past 12 months. Shlomo Glickstein is the only Israeli to have achieved a higher year-end ATP ranking, finishing 1981 in 33rd place. However, Amos lost ground in doubles, slipping from 81 to 167 on the computer.

Glickstein dropped from 167th to 284th in singles during the past year. In doubles, Shlomo fell from a career-high 36th to 99th, but he is still the top Israeli in this category.

Keeping a low profile as he concentrated almost entirely on small

pro-tennis tournaments, Gilad Bloom made tremendous progress in 1986, coincidentally finishing the year in 152nd place in both singles and doubles — to become the second highest-ranking Israeli in each category. During the past 12 months, Gilad rocketed more than 300 rungs up the table in both singles and doubles.

Shlomo Glickstein, still beset by health problems, like Glickstein had a miserable year on the Natick Grand Prix circuit, dropping from 72 to 151 in singles and from 60 to 336 in doubles.

In the fifth position among the record dozen Israeli players in the newly-ranked rankings list is Amos Neri, who is 366th in singles and 497 in doubles. Mansdorf earned \$130,831 in prize money during 1986, to bring his career total to \$290,414. Trailblazing for Israeli tennis was \$28,407 and Bloom with \$12,313.

CRICKET

Windies home and dry

MELBOURNE (AFP). — The West Indies opened their World Series Cup account with a seven-wicket win over Australia at the Melbourne Cricket Ground yesterday, having lost three of their previous four limited-over games since arriving down under.

The West Indies cruised home with 10 balls left. Captain Viv Richards sent Australia in and the locals struggled all the way, with the exception of the final five overs, to reach 181 for six.

Australian captain Allan Border (64 not out), Simon O'Donnell (52) and Ken Macleay (12 not out) all chipped in to add 52 runs from the final five overs.

In reply, West Indies were untroubled reaching 182 for three to join England and Australia on two points in the triangular series.

Australia got away to the worst possible start when the reliable Geoff Marsh was out off the eighth ball of the innings.

Dean Jones, a century-maker when Australia defeated England in Brisbane at the weekend, took the wicket of Marsh in the 11th over, leaving 111 to Malcolm Marshall.

The two run-outs which followed ruined any chance Australia held of compiling a big total.

Border called Dirk Wellman (7) for a fourth run after Gus Logie had returned the ball to Gordon Greenidge from the deep. Wellman was slow to respond, with Greenidge striking the bowler's end stumps in a desperately close finish. All-rounder Greg Matthews was also run out.

AMERICA'S CUP It's 'Kookaburra' for Australia

FREEMANTLE (Reuters). — Kookaburra III won the right to defend the America's Cup for Australia against Stars and Stripes with a crushing victory over Alan Bond's Australia IV.

Kookaburra skipper Iain Murray led round every mark as he has in all races of the best-of-nine defender finals to deliver the ultimate blow to Australia IV skipper Colin Beuschel. Kookaburra won the series 5-0.

SOCCER

Players to face disciplinary committee

By PAUL KOHN

TEL AVIV. — Five national team soccer players, Zahi Arneli, Daniel Brailovsky, Zion Maril, Hanan Azulai and Eyal Begleiter will face a Football Association disciplinary committee because they did not show up for a national squad training session yesterday.

Arneli, Brailovsky and Maril all play for Maccabi Haifa, whose coach Shlomo Sherf came to the training ground to inform the national team coach Milovan Michich that the players were sick.

Michich and Dov Shachar, the teams administrator on behalf of the FA did not accept Sherf's "explanation." Shachar said, "Any player invited for training with the national squad is obliged to do so under FA regulations and only the team coach himself or the squad's doctor can release a player from a training."

Azulai and Begleiter who also failed to turn up for training gave no notice or explanation for their absence.

In a replayed second division match, Hapoel Marmorek and Hapoel Ben Shean drew 1-1.

Lupu to the rescue

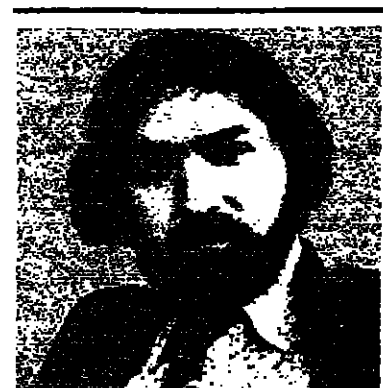
RUBINSTEIN CENTENARY CONCERT No. 2. Israel Philharmonic Orchestra with Zubin Mehta conducting. Aris Vardi, Yefim Bronfman and Radu Lupu, pianists. (Mama Auditorium, Tel Aviv, January 18.) Mozart: Concerto in F major, K. 242, for three pianos; Beethoven: Concerto in G major, Opus 58; Mozart: concerto in C minor, K. 491.

RADU LUPU was the central figure of the second IPO's Rubinstein centenary concert — a veritable vendi-vici affair. Not that he had it easy. As two of the original soloists were indisposed — Emanuel Ax because of a hand injury and Pinha Salzman with flu — Lupu first of all

had to take up the third-piano part in Mozart's three-piano concerto at even shorter notice with no rehearsal. Never mind — Zubin Mehta and his changes being the musicians they are, the emergency was handled with aplomb and mastery. Only once did Mehta blink in surprise — when his soloist introduced a particularly fancy embellishment in the second movement's first episode.

Having accepted Lupu's technical sovereignty over the instrument as self-evident, the magnetism of his music-making lies in his uttermost

MUSIC



Radu Lupu

personal identification with everything he plays. Lupu glides over no textural detail however small or of little overall significance it may appear.

His Beethoven emerged dark, and restless, constantly on the verge of the tragic abyss. The concentration of emotion in the softest passages made the triumph of the second movement's fragile piano entry over the brutal might of the orchestral score inexorable. Throughout, the passion and inner heat allowed his piano to emerge as at least an equal partner to the orchestra, with the cooperation and interplay between them cementing into an inseparable entity.

Mozart's dramatic C-minor con-

certo and the Andante movement from the C-major sonata, K. 545, performed on the encore, were played in a no less personal manner. This contained urgency, passion, and declaratory grandiloquence as well as providing a quiet repose, was both soothing and moving at the same time.

The relatively early-three-piano concerto by Mozart opened the evening on a refined, aristocratic note. The silvery interplay of Aris Vardi's, Yefim Bronfman's, and Lupu's pianos vividly conjured the atmosphere of a music room in a 18th-century palace.

ELI KAREV

Letting Bach sing

A PORTRAIT of the Composer J.S. Bach with Chila Grossmeyer, soprano; Elizabeth Rofel, organ; Erella Talai, flute; Eilat Tsur, oboe and English horn; Noga Gefen, bassoon; David Braude, violin; Arye Bar Doremus, viola; Israel Jerushovitch, cello; Jeremy Shustky, double bass; Yoram Talai, harpsichord; Israel Museum, Jerusalem, January 19. Bach: Five Chorale Preludes (Arnstadt Collection); Recitative, aria and chorale prelude from the Anna Magdalena book; The Musical Offering BWV 1079, transcribed by Yoram Talai.

YOAV TALMI has made a most interesting and tasteful contribution

to the post-Bach literature in this transcription for eight instruments of the Musical Offering from the composer's later years. The actual selection of instrumental colours remains faithful to the typical baroque chamber ensemble, and in distributing the musical lines among the players Talmi achieved his goal of contrapuntal transparency. Every line stands out clearly, creating, if this is possible, even greater awe in the listener as he

stands before Bach's encyclopedic technical mastery and unsurpassable artistry.

During the early movements, mostly a series of canons on the main theme, one sensed a certain hesitancy in the playing, which one knowledgeable listener ascribed to an attempt at recreating the subdued tonal power of authentic baroque-period instruments. This may be the case, but in any event caution was fortunately thrown to the winds in the work's penultimate and central

section, the Trio Sonata. Here the audience was treated to full-bodied, dig-in-and-let-it-sing Bach. Marvelous.

The organ and vocal selections which opened the programme drawn from Bach's early years, filled out this portrait of the composer: the Arnstadt Collection is a manuscript discovered two years ago in the Yale University library, and the Anna Magdalena Bach book, a family album of Bach favourites. The selections were rendered faithfully and in

good style by Roloff and Grossmeyer.

As is common with concerts sponsored jointly with Israel Radio, extended narrative pieces were interspersed throughout the programme by two seasoned radio announcers in typically limpid, disembodied style. This must be more effective with the home listener than the live audience, but in sum it was a small price to pay for so worthy an evening.

DANIEL ZIFF

Perfectionist

RUBINSTEIN CENTENARY CONCERT No. 3. Israel Philharmonic Orchestra with Zubin Mehta conducting. Alicia de Larrocha and Radu Lupu, pianists. (Mama Auditorium, Tel Aviv, January 19.) De Falla: "Night in the Gardens of Spain"; Rachmaninov: Concerto in C minor, Op. 28; Schumann: Concerto in A minor, Op. 54.

THE IPO's Rubinstein happening is gaining in excitement with each successive concert. If the first two events emerged to all intents and purposes as a one-man show, the third featured two pianists — both

marvellous artists, but how different from one another!

Whatever else can be said of Alicia de Larrocha, the diminutive Spanish lady is above all an unsurpassed perfectionist. Textural patterns emerge from her diamond-edged fingers shining clear, the rhythm — precise yet so alive — provides an unrelenting inner spring (which makes her interpretation of the Spanish music inimitable), and the phrases are shaped with both firmness and impeccable grace. Indeed, so thoroughly disciplined is her playing that when the pianist

allows for an ever so slight rhythmic deviation, it makes the expressive point instantly.

On Monday night, de Larrocha's range proved awe-inspiring: from the delicate transparency of the picturesque de Falla to the passionate drive in the Rachmaninov, she maintained the supreme authority of a master.

The Schumann concerto in Radu Lupu's hands was rendered as if in one long breath — an affectionate love-song. While on the previous night, in the Beethoven and Mozart, the artist focused on the drama and

tragedy of the music, it was all lyricism in the Schumann. Any virtuoso effect remained strictly beyond the expressive pale; even the climaxes were explored for the depth and warmth of piano tone rather than for brilliance or power. The remarkable interplay with the orchestra stressed the chamber-music element of the score, adding yet another admirable aspect to a deeply moving performance.

Finally — and necessarily — to the contribution by the conductor and the orchestra. Anyone wishing to figure out what it is that makes the

sound of IPO strings a category on its own can just listen to them play the opening orchestral theme in Rachmaninov's Second concerto. Here, as well as in the numerous solo passages (the few French horn mishaps excepted), the Philharmonic was at its best. Zubin Mehta seemed to enjoy the proceedings wholeheartedly. So did the audience. The Rubinstein events are becoming a true festival.

ELI KAREV

Monday's review of the Israel Philharmonic concert featuring pianist Leonid Brumberg was by Benjamin Bar-Am.

THEY TAKE PLEASURE IN PLEASEING

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The Carlton Hotel, Tel Aviv

Industrialist complains about levy

'Importers favoured by purchase taxes'

By SIMON LOUSSON
For The Jerusalem Post
TEL AVIV. — The way in which purchase taxes are levied discriminates against manufacturers and in favour of importers, according to the general manager of Huiot Plastic Industries, Yehuda Kedar.

At a press conference in Tel Aviv yesterday Kedar said that because importers paid the tax on the landed cost of the goods while local producers pay it on the wholesale price, Israeli manufacturers were at a disadvantage.

Both importers and domestic producers pay the same taxes in percentage terms. But, says Kedar, the domestic producer has to contribute more to government coffers when the price fluctuates, particularly when it rises. A case in point is the recent devaluation. The importer can benefit from a price rise since he does not have to pay the purchase tax on the wholesale price.

In another complaint, Huiot claims importers are at an advantage because they only need to submit a

sample batch of each of their products to ensure that they comply with Israeli standards. Domestic producers must obtain the standards mark and their products must be continually checked, thus creating costs not faced by importers.

"We suggest the Israel Standards Institute copy the U.S. and that every importer, before he receives a permit, show that his products have standard approval," said Uzi Haramati, a marketing partner with Huiot.

The problem here is that there is no proof that the sample submitted to the Standards Institute is the same for all units imported, said Haramati. He does not want to have non-tariff protection barriers imposed. Rather he wants to subject the foreign manufacturer of the imported products to the same kind of continued checking Israeli producers must undergo.

Huiot began producing an electric kettle in April last year at Kibbutz Sde Nehemya and the discrimination it complains of affects this product the most. The competition

comes mainly from England and though Haramati does not claim the English products deviate from standards, he says it is possible to bypass them.

Huiot has written to both the Ministry of Industry and Trade and the Manufacturers Association about the matter but has so far received no response.

Haramati said that sales of the new product were going well domestically and that the first major export shipment to the U.S. would leave next month. The kettle has received the Underwriters Laboratories listing which is vital for product acceptance in the U.S. Only a few European and Middle Eastern kettle makers have received such approval.

Huiot has sold 30,000 kettles domestically and the first export order is for 4,000. Samples have been sent to Spain, Portugal and Cyprus for market testing.

The recent devaluation will be a net benefit to Huiot, but the company also faces higher import costs on the parts it must buy.

Sharon on the lamb

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN
Industry and Trade Minister Ariel Sharon stands to gain \$65,000 from his sheep farm, if the government continues to prevent the import of lamb, Mks Dedi Zucker (Citizens' Rights) and Haim Ramon (Labour) told The Jerusalem Post yesterday.

Ramon and Zucker said they intend to raise the issue next week at a meeting of the Knesset State Control Committee.

The two Knesset members, who submitted an inquiry on the matter to parliament last month, maintain that the Industry Ministry is blocking lamb imports because of pressure from Sharon, who would benefit from the higher prices.

Sharon's farm sells 65 tons of lamb annually. A shortage of the meat, likely to continue through the month of Ramadan (during which Moslems fast from sunrise to sunset), is expected to raise lamb prices by \$1 per kilogram.

A "meat committee" consisting of the directors general of the Industry and Agriculture Ministries, and including a representative from the Finance Ministry, is responsible for deciding if and when to import meat.

The Finance Ministry representative has been trying in vain, for the past few weeks to convene the committee, to push for a decision to import the lamb, and thus prevent the price rises which will result from a shortage of the meat. But Industry and Trade Ministry Director-General Yoram Belisovski has been putting off the meeting, Ramon and Zucker said yesterday.

Sources in the Finance Ministry sources have rejected the claims by the Industry and Agriculture Ministries that importing lamb would harm local sheep farmers.

The Finance Ministry has suggested imposing a tax on imported lamb, to put its price on a par with that for local lamb, while at the same time preventing a shortage and price hikes. "It is obvious that Belisovski is preventing the meat committee's meeting because of Sharon's vast interests," Zucker told The Post, on the basis of information he and Ramon have obtained.

BANKING ON IT/Pinhas Landau

Computerization elation

Some people fear computerization as they would Big Brother. Others view it calmly and welcome its benefits. The development of EFT/POS has witnessed both reactions.

But the rapid advance of POS in recent months, since the initial pilot scheme was successfully completed and the system began operating, has been greeted with wild enthusiasm. Businesses are fired up about what it can do for them, and about the enormous possibilities it opens up.

"We discovered that all our fears were baseless, while our optimistic expectations were surpassed."

— Supersol operations manager David Alfandari

Before we, too, run away with ourselves, let us go back a little to the initial moves in the field of POS, and distinguish again between EPOS and EFT/POS.

EPOS, the electronic point of sale, is now a common feature in hypermarkets, supermarkets and large department stores. It began several years ago, when the big chains sought to combine several hitherto separate functions into one at their check-out counters.

The pioneers in Israel were Supersol. The chain's president, David Wainshall, pushed through a critical decision in 1982 to invest in four experimental systems that combined the weighing of fruit and vegetables, with the check-out process of totting up the customer's bill. On the one hand, there was the potential attraction of thereby significantly improving customer service. On the other, there was the fear of the system breaking down and causing disruptions that would drive customers away.

"In the event," says Supersol operations manager David Alfandari, "we discovered that all our fears were baseless, while our optimistic expectations were wildly surpassed." The experiment was a major success, and Supersol moved ahead as quickly as possible in a programme of refitting its chain with the new systems.

According to Danny Enosh, who is in charge of Supersol's check-out systems (computerized or not) 70 per cent of the chain's turnover is processed at computerized outlets. This includes all 10 of the Hypercol stores, and 14 of the 47 supermarkets. Another six are to be computerized by April. The switchover is proceeding branch by branch, in order of size, with the smallest shops last.

Of course, by now the other chains have more or less caught up. The Jerusalem Co-op is particularly advanced in the computerization of its tills, although other regional co-ops have moved more slowly. Kol-Bo Shalom is entirely computerized and, as we will see, has moved from EPOS to EFT/POS — a move that Supersol is still preparing for.

In passing, it may be noted that Supersol decided to

install the systems produced by a small, and then unheard-of outfit in Haifa Bay, called TMR Industries, in preference to the machines offered by IBM, NCR and other renowned names. The TMR story is worth telling in its own right, and we will return to it in due course.

What do the computerized systems do? Why did Supersol, and then others, get so hooked on them? Even more interestingly, why were Supersol's customers so pleased with them that they began deserting shops in the chain that hadn't been converted yet?

In the first place, being able to weigh and pay together saves queuing, i.e., time. That's plain enough. Then there's the boon of receiving an itemized print-out, instead of the random numbers with no words, which make bills impossible to decipher. These alone are enough to change a customer's attitudes.

For the retailer, though, EPOS has further advantages. The weigh-and-pay system saves him staff and increases throughput time, that is the speed with which the customers are serviced. The computerized check-out counter not only tots up the bill, but simultaneously updates the store's inventory count, allowing the manager to keep abreast of what he needs to order, while keeping stocks as low as possible, and making sure that items that sit on shelves are not ordered again.

It also lets him keep track of exactly what items are being sold at what pace, so that if he has a special offer on, say, toilet paper, he can follow the effects very closely, and not have to rely on rough estimates and impressions, as used to be the case.

On the financial side, management has similar advantages. The computer automatically keeps a tally of how many customers passed through each check-out point, how many paid with cash, cheques or credit cards, and what the breakdown of purchase amounts was. All the information is stored in the micro-computer that controls each branch's tills, and then transmitted to the head office at the end of each working day, so that group management is up to date with turnovers, cash-flow and deferred payments for the firm. This allows rapid decision-making and response to credit-payment campaigns and generally increases flexibility. In theory, the system could work in real-time, but this is seen as an unnecessary luxury, given the costs involved.

But there is no reason to stop there. If the store can send some or all of its financial data to its headquarters, it can also send it to other interested parties, or receive information from them. Thus, it can transmit data on credit card purchases to the credit-card companies or, conversely, receive validations of the card or authorizations of the amount of the proposed purchase back from the company. At that stage, the store has moved from EPOS to EFT/POS because now it is not only opening its point of sale electronically, but is also transferring funds from the point of sale, in this case, to the credit card company. The next stage to consider, therefore, is how and by whom this is done, and what opportunities and dangers it creates.

This is the second article of a series.

Stiffer penalties planned in UK for insider trading

LONDON (AP). — The British government, which is being attacked by the Labour Party opposition for its handling of a series of City of London finance scandals, is planning to increase maximum jail sentences for insider trading, a Home Office spokesman said yesterday.

He said the maximum jail term for illegal use of privileged financial information would be increased from two to seven years and that the provision could be added to a new law currently before the British Parliament.

Chinese warn against dangers of consumerism

PEKING (AP). — Officials have warned that consumerism should not be the driving force of the Chinese economy and that frugality remains a prime virtue in socialist development, the People's Daily (Renmin Ribao) reported yesterday.

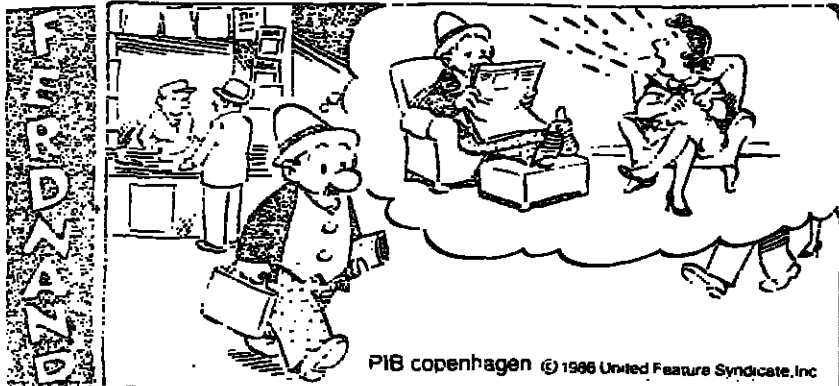
The report, quoting statements from a meeting of the National People's Congress standing committee, appeared to indicate reappraisal of the pace of economic reforms meant to accompany the current political campaign against Western liberal ideas.

Economist Xu Dixin, the report

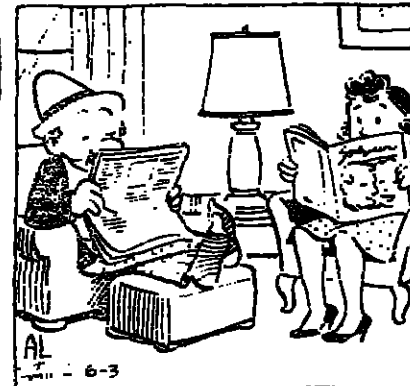
said, told the meeting that central, mandatory planning cannot be negated as China shifts to a more market-oriented economic system.

At present, the theory that consumerism can be the main force of economic growth in China does not conform to reality. Production, rather than consumption, is still the leading factor in determining economic direction, Xu said.

The daily, the official newspaper of the Communist party, said numerous committee members called for the Chinese people to be hard-working, diligent and frugal.



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AVIATION BRIEFS

'86 called safe year for airlines

WASHINGTON (AP). — After a rash of airline crashes in 1985 that claimed more than 1,600 lives worldwide, 1986 has been one of commercial aviation's safest years, industry sources said recently.

Although official figures have not yet been compiled, unofficial tabulations showed that nearly 500 people were killed in airline accidents last year.

A year ago, the airlines were reeling in the aftermath of one of the industry's worst years for safety. The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) put the fatalities from jetliner accidents at 1,622, compared with a yearly average of under 600 during the previous five years.

AS OF THIS WEEK, Israeli tourists returning home from Heathrow on El Al can once again claim their Value Added Tax refunds on leaving Britain.

El Al announced yesterday that the British Airports Authority, which runs Heathrow Airport, has established VAT facilities for El Al passengers at the airport's Terminal One.

El Al was moved from Terminal Three to Terminal One last year, as a security precaution. Terminal One, however, lacked facilities — such as exist in Terminal Three — for giving tourists the 15 per cent VAT refund due on purchases made in Britain. El Al passengers had to claim the tax back in Israel, which necessitated declaration of their purchases to the Israeli customs authorities.

A SENIOR OFFICIAL in the Israel Aircraft Industries has said that a few foreign companies have shown an interest in buying devices de-



A Gazelle helicopter.

veloped as spin-offs of the Lavi fighter programme.

The source, David Arzi, said last week that the interest was expressed at a four-day conference here last week where 46 representatives of U.S. and European companies discussed business deals and joint ventures.

The IAI proposals varied from cooperation in miniaturizing devices to converting Boeing 707-100 passenger planes to cargo aircraft.

A HELICOPTER CHARTER company based at Herzliya Airport recently took delivery of a Gazelle helicopter purchased in Britain.

Helicopter Services director general Max Kramer said last week he hoped to charter the company's Gazelle and three Hillers to fly tourists, VIPs, sick people in need of a flying ambulance and photographers who can take pictures from the aircraft. Helicopters have already been used to check electric lines and in oil exploration, he said.

Rental costs range from \$360 an hour for a Hiller to \$600 for the Gazelle.

TOWER AIR HAS ADDED a new "class" to its service between New York and Tel Aviv. For an extra \$50 passengers can sit at the front of the jumbo, be assured that the middle seat (in a row of three) is empty and have a better meal than those served to regular passengers.

The new class will be a boon to travellers with infants, since they

may place the infant in the middle seat.

SUN D'OR, EL AL'S charter subsidiary, has begun a weekly service between Paris and Eilat.

CONTINENTAL AIRLINES (CAI), a unit of Texas Air Corp (TEX), has reported that People Express and New York Air will merge into Continental on February 1 to form the world's largest full-service, low-fare airline.

Continental said in Houston, Texas, the move would make it the third largest U.S. carrier, with a fleet of 312 jet aircraft serving 109 domestic airports and 32 international destinations in Europe, Mexico, Canada, the South Pacific and Japan.

Continental said it will now have over 1,500 flights daily, with major U.S. hubs at Denver, Houston, Newark and Washington, D.C., Dulles Airport.

CANADIAN LTD. has said it expects the market for its new water bomber airplane could reach \$2 billion by the year 2000.

The company said the first flight of a prototype aircraft will take place in September 1988.

Canadair said the new water bomber can fight forest fires and is also suitable for military and commercial use. It said the new plane can touch down on land or water, will be able to use fresh or salt water, and can scoop up water as it skims along a lake or ocean to dump on a fire for up to five hours without refuelling.

U.S. could impose penalties

Koor awaits dumping ruling

By KENSCHACHTER
For The Jerusalem Post

TEL AVIV. — Koor Industries is hoping that a February 7 ruling by the American International Trade Commission will lift the threat of penalties for unfair trade practices the company faces in the U.S.

The U.S. Commerce Department, in a ruling January 9 and another last fall found that oil-pipe exports by the Middle East Trading Co. (Metro), a Koor subsidiary, were being subsidized by the Israeli government. Because of the subsidies, Koor faces the imposition of anti-dumping fees and countervailing duties.

But it can avoid these if it wins its case before the ITC. In a hearing before the commission last Wednesday, Koor officials argued that Israeli exports — amounting to less than 1 per cent of U.S. imports — did no damage to American industry.

U.S. law holds that if domestic industry is unharmed by the import, penalties are unwarranted. Exporting nations can find it difficult to

prove that their product did not damage the U.S. market because of a November 1984 law that recognizes cumulative injury caused by several countries. For example, Israel can be lumped together with Canada — which controls 7 per cent of the oil-pipe market.

Even if Israel by itself did not injure the market, the law says it can be penalized because of the harm its exports cause when combined with those of other countries.

Another problem for exporters is that they are presumed guilty until they prove otherwise.

Commerce Department investigators determined that based on the subsidies granted by the government, countervailing duties should be set at 12 per cent. Anti-dumping fees, based on the production cost less taxes, also were figured at 12 per cent. Later calculations combining the two figures and eliminating overlap put the total at 17 per cent.

Thus, U.S. importers of the Israeli pipe would have to post a 17 per cent deposit on goods they receive pending the final ruling.

Koor officials believe the percentage is based on faulty calculations and should in fact be less. But they stressed that if the ITC finds no "material injury" to the U.S. market, no penalties will be assessed.

The size of the deposit could be reduced by ITC ruling. Avraham Porat, managing director of Metro, said. Further, even if the ITC decision goes against Metro, Porat said, the company may decide to file an appeal.

The Commerce Department team cited development loans and a government programme that protects Israeli companies from foreign currency swings as proof that Metro is being subsidized.

Koor, Israel's largest industrial concern and a major exporter, fears that the Metro case may set a precedent, inviting the imposition of anti-dumping fees on products made by other Israeli companies that benefit from the same programme.

Metro, based in Haifa, employs about 600 persons and exported \$16.3 million worth of goods on total sales of \$42m. in 1985.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 What the exultant cricketer might do to avoid a trying time! (4,4)
- 5 County employees (6)
- 9 Isle with a lot of trees or one tropical tree (8)
- 10 Repair broken sword (6)
- 11 A match for the two other parties? (4)
- 12 Could the proverbial dog in it get a dog ailment right after? (6)
- 14 Has another widespread daily changed its format permanently? (2,3,5)
- 18 African state which also boasts of its trunk-roads (5,5)
- 22 Locust led with grain by the farmer (6)
- 23 He just leave their money to work for them? (4,4)
- 24 Beekeeper's favourite soup (6)
- 25 Stop giving advice to the farmer whose milk has gone sour (6,2)
- 26 Long speech for one in business (6)
- 27 Physicist tells what struck Newton with great weight (6)

DOWN

- 1 Preserve glass from tight crush and sudden shock (3,3)
- 2 Mutilate leg on which chap stands (6)
- 3 Barrister who serves local customers? (6)
- 4 Plea not applicable to the unemployed (10)
- 6 Boston riot arranged by a mad hatter (3,5)
- 7 Legitimate target of abuse, but it is only just sport (4,4)
- 8 Pair is taken in by certain unexpected event (8)
- 13 Union policy which serves no customer (6,4)
- 15 Nothing in a Leftist slogan (5,5)
- 16 Device recommended for company without any true transmission (8)
- 17 It's a song sounds unbelievable (4,4)
- 19 Dispirited article and make merry about it (6)
- 20 Best sort of penalty is imposed on a pious man (6)
- 21 Camera shot on a pole needs a little bit of light (6)

SCRIBBLE PAD

Yesterdays Solution

CROSSWORD

ACROSS: 1. Bump, 2. Nonsense, 3. Cropper, 4. Sheep, 5. Corn, 6. Annema, 7. Nile, 8. Fated, 9. Zebra, 10. Only, 11. Buffalo, 12. Cheese, 13. Amber, 14. Isolate, 15. Trouble, 16. Street, 17. Bicycle, 18. Spoor, 19. Neptune, 20. Nuts, 21. Resin, 22. Overseer, 23. Seed, 24. Meal, 25. Idol, 26. Affable, 27. Cyclops, 28. Tempest, 29. Indue, 30. Beast, 31. Aard, 32. Awake or aware.

DOWN: 1. Hapless, 2. Sports, 3. Leisure, 4. Unhappy, 5. Sluggishness, 6. Dipping spoon, 7. Introductory psalm, 8. Sphere, 9. Request, 10. Parcel of matter, 11. Retirement day, 12. Consume, 13. Deep regret, 14. Conjure, 15. Surviving spouse, 16. Last Greek letter, 17. Sea perch

QUICK SOLUTION

Yesterdays Solution

CROSSWORD

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QUICK CROSSWORD

Yesterdays Solution

CROSSWORD

ACROSS: 1. Lovable old ladies, 2. Covering, 3. Can liner, 4. The same again, 5. Flight, 6. Labyrinth, 7. Nobleman, 8. Loud bang, 9. Church festival, 10. Khayyan, 11. Attractive in manner, 12. Muslim princess, 13. Roadway to house, 14. For hunter, 15. Alfred's birthplace, 16. Curt in speech

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A visit to the museum is educational. But kids enjoy it anyway.

ECONOMIC NEWS AND FEATURES
MARKET PLACE
PROBOND
may
pebbles

MARKET PLACE

PETER MILLER

Eurobond tide may be ebbing

A phenomenal boom in the issue of new Eurobonds, many big borrowers' favorite way to raise cash in the 1980s, may be losing some of its head of steam.

This means cut-throat competition among the banks that issue Eurobonds — bonds denominated in currencies outside their country of origin — and a relentless quest for the novelties which the market calls "beats and whistles" that make one sort of bond more attractive than another.

Industry statistics show \$183 billion of new Eurobonds were issued last year. That was a rise of 36 per cent on 1985, but not so rapid as the leap of more than 70 per cent from 1984 to 1985.

New financing needs are likely to be modest, if economic growth remains sluggish, market analysts say.

Meanwhile one novel sector of the market has been in crisis. This is the sector which trades a type of bond called the perpetual floating rate note — or "perp" in market jargon.

A huge sell-off of perps early in January led to a price collapse which placed investments worth about \$18b. in jeopardy and threatened to close the 20-month-old market.

The specialist bonds are mainly used by banks to raise funds. Unlike normal Eurobonds they never mature. The novelty and the attraction being that they offer very generous interest rates.

But as they never mature, it is imperative to have a healthy secondary market in which they can be bought and sold.

The crisis in perps, which account for only about 10 per cent of all Eurobond business, has not sapped confidence in Eurobonds generally, traders and market analysts say, though they are divided on how long the Eurobond bonanza can go on. "Growth has to slow when it reaches a certain threshold," a London bond trader says. "But the bubble isn't going to burst."

"One thing's for sure," says another. "Syndicated loans are a thing of the past. Eurobonds are here to stay." Loans, by syndicates of banks, marked the 1970s of crisis when banks were awash with petrodollar deposits. But now, the oil crisis has given place to a debt crisis.

Meanwhile borrowers, including governments and major corporations, prefer to raise funds through bonds which can be traded in a secondary market like shares, rather than through far less flexible bank loans.

And bank competition to sell increasingly sophisticated bonds at keen terms cuts the cost of borrowing.

"This is a borrowers' market. Pickings are thin and banks are scrambling for business to maintain a presence in the market," says one Eurobond salesman.

The market started about 30 years ago but has only really started picking up substantial volume in the last decade.

Credit Suisse First Boston took the biggest share of the Eurobond market last year with about 11 per cent of total turnover — 102 issues totalling nearly \$20b.

Statistics show Japan's Nomura took 8 per cent, Deutsche Bank almost 7 per cent and Morgan Guaranty 5.5 per cent. Denmark borrowed most in 1986, with 34 issues worth nearly \$7b. compared with \$1.3b. in 1985. Last year's borrowing was mostly caused by a soaring balance of payments deficit which Eurobond dealers are monitoring closely.

Britain's \$4b. Eurobond in September, launched to bolster foreign exchange reserves, was the biggest ever. "This was a clear sign of confidence in our market from a traditionally conservative borrower," one trader says.

Borrowers span a wide range including Denmark, Sweden, the World Bank, Norsk Hydro, Colgate Palmolive, IBM, and Mercedes.

A standard Eurobond issue size would range between \$100m.-250m. A bond purchaser gets a piece of paper which promises to repay the holder at a set rate of holder interest. The issuance makes it difficult for tax inspectors to trace their owners, while investors can resell their investment in the secondary market.

Operators have introduced more complex bonds to attract buyers. Floating rate notes pay a return that varies with prevailing interest rates. Convertible bonds can be changed into shares. (Reuters)

Dollar climbs

LONDON (AP). — The U.S. dollar staged a broad recovery yesterday in Japan and Europe on the prospects of talks in Washington to stem its recent sharp decline and possible interest rate cuts in West Germany. Gold prices fell on the dollar's recovery.

Traders said the market was reacting to talks set for today in Washington between the Japanese Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa and U.S. Treasury Secretary James Baker. The Japanese are hoping to secure action to stem the dollar's recent sharp fall.

Dealers in Frankfurt said the dollar's rise was also supported by mounting speculation that the West German central bank, the Bundesbank, might cut its discount rate, the interest rate charged on loans to commercial banks.

Comments by West German Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg and Economics Minister Martin Bangemann suggesting there was room for such a cut raised expectations that the Bundesbank would

reverse its longstanding position against such a move when its central bank council meets tomorrow, dealers said.

"There will be lots of uncertainty in the next day or two, both because of the Washington meeting and the West German Bundesbank's central council meeting," said one dealer.

"The market is very, very nervous." In Tokyo, where trading ends as Europe's business day begins, the dollar recovered from its lowest level since the late 1940s, closing at 152.25 yen compared with 150.45 yen on Monday. Later, in London, the dollar was fractionally higher at 152.30 yen.

Miyazawa's hastily arranged trip to Washington follows a strengthening of the yen against the dollar, which has made Japanese goods more expensive abroad, slowed Japanese exports and squeezed corporate earnings.

Although gold prices fell on the dollar's strength, dealers said no one was talking about a change in the metal's longer-term upward trend.

'War' escalates between car importers and gov't

By JONATHAN KARP

The battle over car prices intensified yesterday as the Transport Ministry ordered the importers to report how many cars they had in stock or in bonded warehouses belonging to customs. The ministry warned that the law barred them from refusing to sell cars already in stock.

The importers yesterday petitioned the High Court of Justice in a bid to force the government to raise the prices of small cars in line with currency rate changes. The importers argued that the recommended 7 per cent price increase was inadequate, in light of last week's 10 per cent devaluation of the shekel.

"It's like war," one ministry official said, referring to the atmosphere between the two parties.

In a telegram sent to the country's 18 importers, Arye Rubin, director of the ministry's Vehicle Division, ordered them to submit inventory reports immediately. According to the law, all cars in stock must be sold at the prices published on January 1.

Ministry officials said that in the past few days they were deluged with

calls from customers saying dealers were reluctant to finalize car sales even though down payments had already been made. The ministry stressed that dealers could not hold on to their cars until the higher prices take effect on February 1.

It is not yet clear how many cars are involved. Arye Carasso, the head of the Automobile Importers Association, declined to comment on the situation. A few other importers said they would provide the government with their figures, but said they had not received the order requiring them to do so.

Transport Ministry officials said it would take at least a few days to compile all the data. According to the ministry spokesman, inspectors have already begun to collect information at warehouses. Also, the ministry yesterday called on customs officials to supply listings of the cars held in their bonded warehouses.

But one customs official said it could take days to classify the stock because the cars are not listed separately by manufacturer and model. He said that only the total number of cars is known.



Floor dealers gesture price-signs during an afternoon session of the Tokyo Stock Exchange Market yesterday. (AFP telephoto)

EINHORN

(Continued from Page One)

that by Israeli standards is gargantuan and is probably unmatched by even leading European bank CEO's.

Thus, while the desire for personal revenge that characterized the staff's campaign against Japhet would not be present in an anti-Einhorn campaign, the outcome would likely be Einhorn's resignation. By extension, any other senior executives receiving disproportionately large salaries will also be subject to the works' committees wrath.

At a meeting held last Wednesday of Leumi's management echelon, comprising 20 or 30 people, Einhorn was subjected to virulent criticism, while morale throughout the bank

has plummeted, with management credibility close to zero. Even Leumi's rivals feel discomfited by the scandal enveloping that bank, since they believe that the image of the entire banking community has been severely damaged.

The prolongation of the process of finding a chairman and directors, and the threat of further trouble following the publication of the Zadok committee's report are creating a situation of paralysis within the bank. The resolution of the impasse, however, lies in the hands of Dulzin. Faced with what may be his last opportunity to exert influence over Leumi, Dulzin seems in no hurry to decide.

Proposal to limit rise in municipal rates

Increases in municipal rates (arnona) in the 1987-88 tax year should be limited to the rise in the cost-of-living index, the Interior Ministry has proposed.

An Interior Ministry official,

Rachel Geyer, who presented the proposal to the Knesset Interior Committee on Monday, suggested exceptions be made only in the case of municipalities now charging rates above or below the national average.

Sharon urges industrialists to freeze prices, wages

By ANDY COURT

Trade and Industry Minister Ariel Sharon yesterday urged industrialists to freeze their prices and their workers' wages to ensure economic stability following the devaluation.

"We'll do everything we can to see that prices don't go up," Sharon said yesterday during a tour of Teva Pharmaceutical Industries plant near Ramat. "If prices do go up, we will not hesitate to reimpose strict controls."

Roughly half of the country's industries are still subject to government price controls.

Sharon said that the effort to right the economy had to be made jointly by industrialists, workers, and consumers, whom he called "the best [price] supervisors."

During his visit to the Teva plant, Sharon heard officials describe efficiency measures and planning techniques that should enable the company to increase production by 50 per cent without a similar increase in space and staff.

"The new (economic) plan has elements that will help increase exports," Sharon said. "But producers must become more efficient — like the plant we just visited."

Amarco air ionizer sales reach \$4.5m in 1986

TEL AVIV. — Amcor sold \$4.5 million worth of air ionizers last year, an increase of 30 per cent over 1985, a company spokeswoman said.

The company last year introduced a line of ionizers that cleanse the air of pollutants. Sales were particularly strong in California, where the devices are being advertised on cable television.

The new ionizers are equipped with a patented grounding mechanism that boosts the generation of charged air molecules, or negative ions.

Ionizers use electricity to produce negative ions — or air molecules that have an extra electron. The negative ions replace pollutant-laden air molecules.

Tel Aviv Stock Exchange

MARKET STATISTICS

Indices:

General Share Index	110.25+0.57%
Non-Bank Index	118.30+1.65%
Arrangement	104.08-0.12%
Insurance	107.46+1.38%
Commerce, Services	112.83+2.54%
Real Estate	119.82+2.07%
Industrials	115.59+1.89%
Textiles	123.81+1.51%
Metals	116.02+1.73%
Electronics	124.80+2.04%
Chemicals	117.86+1.13%
Industrial Invest.	121.71+3.19%
Investment Cos.	127.85+0.32%
General Bond Index	107.00+0.18%
Index-linked Bonds	107.51+0.23%
Fully-linked	108.54+0.33%
Partially-linked	105.90+0.07%
Dollar-linked Bonds	103.84 -3.18
Short-term 0-2 yrs	106.00+0.05%
Medium-term 2-5 yrs	106.99 0%
Long-term 5+ yrs	108.13+0.64%

Turnovers:

Shares — total	NIS 25,366,000
Arrangement	NIS 8,202,000
Non-bank	NIS 17,164,000
Bonds — total	NIS 10,519,500
Index-linked	NIS 8,088,300
Dollar-linked	NIS 2,431,500
Treasury Bills	NIS 21,889,100

Share Movements:

Advances	230 (174)
of which 5%+	24 (31)
"buyers only"	5 (2)
Declines	49 (77)
of which 5%+	2 (11)
"sellers only"	0 (0)
Unchanged	118 (133)
Trading Halt	24 (37)

Bond Market Trends:

Index-linked:	3% fully-linked
General rises to 3%	

4.25% fully-linked	Rises to 2%
80% linked	Stable/mixed
Double-linked	Rises to 3%
Dollar-linked:	
Admon	Slightly rises
Rimon	Falls to 2%
Gilboa	Falls to 2%
Fur. Curr.	
denominated	Mixed to 1%
Treasury Bills	
(annual yield)	21.45-22.00%

Arrangement yields:

IBD ord.	17.78%
Union 0.1	17.81%
Discount A	17.80%
Mizrahi r.	17.81%
Hapoalim r.	17.75%
General A	17.71%
Leumi stock	17.70%
Fin. Trade 1	17.25%

SELECTED PRICE QUOTATIONS

Name	Price	Volume	%
			100NIS change

Commercial Banks

(not part of "arrangement")			
Maritime	1785	7916	+4.9
Marine non-err.	22580	136	+1.8
First Int'l	4981	3887	+3.8
FIBI	5970	4769	+4.4

Commercial Banks

(part of "arrangement")			
IBI	6788	1266	-0.2
Union 0.1	65200	218	-
Discount	111850	275	-0.1
Mizrahi	36050	2455	-0.1
Hapoalim r.	152350	96	-0.1
General A	152350	96	-0.1
Leumi 0.1	73888	5698	-
Fin. Trade	50800	1	+0.2

Mortgage Banks

Leumi Mort. r.	8290	626	+5.7
Dev. Mort.	3190	1312	+2.9
Mishkan r.	3150	5828	+4.8
Tefahot r.	20180	154	+0.5
Merav r.	7830	206	+4.0

Financial Institutions

Agrie C	152807	b.o.2	+5.0
Ind. Dev. OD	68801		
Clal Lending 0.1	20948	182	+4.7

Insurance

Ararat 0.1 r.	1480	1323	-
Hasehah r.	368	4558	+1.4
Phoenix 0.1	886	10048	+4.7
Hamishmar	7100	5	-
Menorah 1	2228	72	-
Sahar r.	5500	383	-
Zion Hold. 1	10100	109	-

Trade & Services

Meir Ezra	1380	2674	-
Supersol 2	9320	1080	+3.6
Delek r.	4175	4124	+3.9
Lighterage	15820	88	-1.8
Cold Storage	1157	-	+5.0
Dan Hotels	1515	516	-3.8
Yarden Hotel	2780	282	+1.5
Hilon 1	25200	11	+3.5
Team 1	1050	2491	+5.0

Real Estate, Building and Agriculture

Azorim	1051	24542	+5.0
Elion	578	14870	-
Africa Int. 0.1	48400	724	+2.5
Central Trade	8300	519	+1.2
Prop. & Bldg.	4700	3747	+2.2
Bayshore 0.1	5800	2801	+1.5
ILDC r.	75550	386	+3.1
Rasor r.	8400	150	+3.7
Mehadrin	10735	737	+2.6
Hadarim	1770	8060	+4.1

Industrials

Dubek b	4880	1273	+1.0
Pr-Ze 1	no trading		
Sunroost	14100	90	+2.2
Elma	18880	279	+1.0
Adgar	757	23179	+3.7
Argaman r.	18350	86	-
Delta G 1	3800	1929	+2.7
Maquet 1	5510	401	-
Eagle 1	24525	135	-
Polgat	4450	1684	-2.5
Schoelleria	17450	308	-
Rogeez	2882	650	+3.6
Union 0.1 r.	9737	738	+1.9
la. Can Co. 1	3870	2913	+4.3
Zion Cables	2380	1382	+1.3
Packer Steel	15700	402	-
Elit	48450	27	+1.9

Elron

Spectronix 1	2904	4853	-
T.A.T. 1	4998	221	+1.3
Ackerstein 1	1060	2884	+4.3
Agan 5	18400	313	+3.8
Alliance	2300	526	-2.1
Dexter	3434	386	+7.0
Fertilisers	5255	32	+2.0

Investment Companies

IBD Dev. r.	7018	7128	+2.0
Elion	4750	2672	+1.1
Alk 1	230	7040	-0.9
Gahelet	1515	208	+1.0
Israel Corp. 1	13720	849	-2.1
Wolfson 1 r	127000	0.5	+0.8
Hapoalim Inv.	6180	785	-
Discount Invest.	4355	7227	+2.0
Mizrahi Invest.	28200	98	-4.8
Clal 10	1300	15477	-
Landeco 0.1	3601	137	+7.2
Pama 0.1	13899	152	+3.7

Oil Exploration

Paz Oil Expl.	25200	148	+3.3
J.O.E.L.	4328	2108	-

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s.o. sellers only	b.o. buyers only	b. bearer	r. registered
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The signs from Basra

WHETHER OR NOT it marks a prelude to the long-threatened "final offensive" in the seven-year-old Gulf War, the present Iranian push on Iraq's southern port-city of Basra is an ominous event.

Basra has been shelled by the Iranian army more than once before, and many of its half-million inhabitants fled their homes some time ago. But this is the first time the Iranians are actually closing in on the city, Iraq's second largest, apparently with a view to its encirclement, and eventual occupation. Even if they only cut Basra off from the rest of the country, the blow to Iraq's Ba'athist regime would be severe.

Though Iraq has shown considerable resilience in this long drawn-out war, its original expectation of easy victory over the Iranians faded early on. Iraqi military and civilian losses have steadily mounted, now reaching into the hundreds of thousands and affecting almost every family in the land. Iraq's economy has been set years back, and its entire oil revenue for the coming decade is already mortgaged to allow for the purchase of weapons and material.

Throughout it all, however, President Saddam Hussein has belied occasional rumours of his imminent demise, holding on to his seat of power. While a mood of pessimism is now reported to pervade Iraq, it has not translated itself into significant challenge, either military or civilian, to the Ba'athist regime. Iranian attempts to drive a wedge between the majority Shi'ites and the ruling Sunnis has evidently got stuck somewhere in the southern marshes.

This may change if the Iranians, besides keeping up their missile attacks on Baghdad, also seize a vital, even if small, chunk of Iraqi territory, such as Basra. Intensified Iraqi air bombings of Iranian cities will not then avert a break in the prolonged stalemate in Iran's favour.

The consequences of this happening, even if still only a possibility, must already be examined.

Iran need not overrun Iraq militarily to win: surrender to Khomeinism, which is what Iran has been after, would be sufficient. The impact on the more moderate Arab states, such as Jordan, whose support of Iraq in the war out of both a sense of national identity and fear of the spreading Islamic fundamentalism, could be grievous. Even Ba'athist Syria, Iran's friend-of-convenience and implacable foe of "sisterly" Iraq, must shudder at the prospect.

It stands to reason that Israel, too, would not fail to be affected. Although it would take war-weary Iran time to regroup its forces and allies for the apocalyptic "March on Jerusalem," an anti-Israel coalition could be formed that would blow to smithereens all past hopes for an Arab-Israeli peace.

Prognostications such as these may seem far-fetched, but they are not any more so than the assumptions that underlay the now-aborted plans for supplying U.S. arms to Iran through its "moderate" elements. Iran was militarily in the ascendant already in the summer of 1985, and it should have been clear at that time that a triumphant Iran, whether under Khomeini or his chosen successor, would be anything but moderate or pro-Western.

But all Iraqi overtures to this country were rebuffed, if only by silence. This was evidently done on the premise that Iraq, long Israel's worst enemy, was merely desperate for aid, and could never truly reform. Iran, on the other hand, being a non-Arab country, would regain its sanity after a bout of Khomeinism, if only because its true "strategic interest" so dictated. The Iraqis, it was suggested, would have 40 divisions ready for combat against Israel once the war was over; the Iranians, their next-door neighbours, on the other hand, would not be so foolish as to try to cross the desert in order to get here.

A Knesset first

FISTICUFFS are not unknown to happen in parliaments all over the world, even in Western Europe. Israel was lucky to be spared any such display of the decadence of democracy - until two days ago, when the communist-controlled DFPE and the right-wing nationalist Tehiya came to blows over a visit by a Soviet "peace delegation" to the Knesset.

That first incident of its kind must be the last one, too. If there is one thing the Knesset cannot be allowed to become, it is an arena for illegal demonstrations and personal violence.

Attitudes to the Soviet delegation among Knesset members naturally varied. Some left-wing deputies met with the delegation, in the MKs' dining room, and the Zionists among them challenged the guests from Moscow to explain why Israel should permit a Soviet role in Middle East peacemaking so long as Jews were not being permitted to leave the Soviet Union. The replies were not considered satisfactory.

To be told to "wait and see" would not have satisfied Tehiya leaders either. But these self-appointed guardians of Israeli patriotism disdained the opportunity to engage the Russians in argument: they chose rather to inform them, by way of placards, that they were unwelcome in Israel. To strengthen the point, non-MK members of pro-Soviet Jewish organizations were invited by Tehiya to take part in the demonstration.

This, in itself, was a gross violation of Knesset decorum. As Knesset Speaker Shlomo Hilel said later, it amounted to turning the Knesset, a deliberative assembly, into a Zion Square of demonstrations. He called for the promulgation of new rules that would outlaw such behaviour not only in the plenum, where it is already barred, but anywhere in the building.

Due punishment will also have to be meted out for the kind of personal violence that followed. It was started by Charlie Biton, the resident non-communist DFPE ruffian, who not long ago threatened to beat up the radio's Knesset reporter for allegedly cutting the party's Meir Viner out of his reports. Mr. Biton attacked Tehiya's Goula Cohen bodily, grabbing a placard out of her purse and tearing it to pieces. She hit back with the assistance of party deputies present. This was then an invitation for Meir Kahane to get into the scene of violence by going after Biton.

Certainly these two deserve each other. But the Knesset deserves neither.

Court pressure

Allen E. Shapiro

WHILE NOT a new phenomenon, pressure group activity in the judicial arena has recently achieved a heightened prominence. The application of Shoshana Miller, the American Reform convert, for an identity card designating her Jewish by national group, is a recent example. Like some of the blacks whose court victories in the U.S. were milestones in the desegregation of American higher education and who later failed to matriculate in the universities for which they had battled for admission, Miller has reportedly opted to relinquish the personal fruits of her achievement, preferring the less contentious atmosphere of her Colorado exile.

The intervention of the American Reform Movement with regard to the "Who is a Jew" issue is a welcome counterweight to the massive pressure exerted by ultra-Orthodox sectarian leaders, particularly those concentrated in the Williamsburg section of Brooklyn, from whom local clerical parties have often received their marching orders. Pressure from abroad should, at least, be balanced, as is inevitable in any case.

As long as decisions in Israel affect vital interests of Jews abroad, it would be unrealistic to expect that foreign interest would not be translated into overseas efforts to influence the outcome. The question of Jewish identity is obviously of an importance which transcends Israel's geographical confines. After the first court test of the issue, the famous Rufeisen (Brother Daniel) case, Ben-Gurion appealed for an expression of views on the subject from Jewish religious and intellectual leaders without regard to citizenship or place of residence.

That the Reform Movement should turn to the court is perfectly natural. That is the forum, in Israel and elsewhere, for interest groups which have little hope of positive achievement in the major political arenas, the government or the legislature. Pressure group activity can and does drag the court into hot political issues.

WHAT HAPPENS when the temperature gets too high for the court's comfort? In the past, its response has been to raise the barriers to interest group litigants by tightening its access rules, such as standing requirements. These are court-made rules and can be altered through the exercise of judicial discretion. They have changed from time to time and may be in for another alteration in response to recent developments.

In 1970, the court apparently came to a collective judgment that political interest group pressure on it had become excessive. The court had achieved considerable public prominence with the landmark "Who is a Jew" case, the Shalit decision, involving the registration as Jews of the offspring of a mixed marriage. This was soon followed by Justice Berenson's order, signed on a Friday evening, which permitted Shabbat television, contrary to a government decision to hold up action on the issue. In both instances, there were vitriolic attacks on the court from clerical groups.

Immediately thereafter, the High Court was faced with two petitions which raised sensitive religious issues. Israel Becker, an anti-religious-coercion activist, petitioned the court against yeshiva students' deferment from military service. At the same time, Rabbi Simha Meron, a politically active Orthodox jurist, sought to invalidate the permits of the Minister of Labour for work on the Sabbath which allowed the Sabbath TV broadcasts to go on the air.

At the time, it was accepted practice not to raise issues of standing in cases involving issues of fundamental rights. Therefore, neither the Minister of Defence in the Becker case nor the Minister of Labour in the TV dispute pleaded the applicant's lack of standing. The issue was raised in both cases at the initiative of the court, which dismissed both petitions on standing grounds. When religious groups made a second try on the TV issue, in an action brought by religious members of the Broadcasting Authority, later joined by religious labour groups claiming to represent the interests of religious workers employed in broadcasting, they were again put off. The Broadcasting Authority members lacked standing, the court held, while the

trade union groups, whose standing was unquestionable, were held to have waited too long to get involved in the issue and were therefore barred by their tardiness.

The court made no bones about the basis for its tightening of standing requirements. "To the extent that the complaint has more of a public character, and it relates to matters that buzz in the political arena and serve as a subject for deliberations before the government and the Knesset," declared Justice Witkon, it is necessary to be more stringent with regard to standing requirements. Otherwise, in his view, there would be a violation of the principle of the separation of powers between the coordinate branches, with the court becoming something of a mini-parliament. He recognized that the boundaries to judicial intervention were arbitrary, but nonetheless necessary.

RECENTLY, the court has relaxed the barrier. In the General Security Services case, none of the applicants for judicial action against the presidential pardons had a personal interest involved, except perhaps for the families of the two Arab terrorists who had been killed. The court's president, Justice Meir Shamgar, declared that the court would not raise standing requirements when a fundamental constitutional issue was raised.

But how much pressure can the court take? In the Nakash extradition case, the petitioners are Knesset members and university professors, none with a direct personal interest in the outcome. Recently, the yeshiva student deferment issue has again been raised, this time by Advocate Yehuda Ressler, who brought the original court action that resulted in Sabbath television.

History, then, has come full circle. Will the court follow the pattern of the past and once again raise the standing barrier, perhaps deciding that neither Nakash nor the yeshiva deferment cases involve constitutional issues fundamental enough to justify waiving standing requirements? If so, then the Shoshana Miller episode will prove to have had a price.

The writer is a political scientist.

Newsworthy measures

Eric Gutwillig

I HAVE always been puzzled by what makes one news item worthy of front-page treatment, while another is relegated to the nethermost depths of the inside pages.

Thus, Liberal party feuding - amusing, but hardly a matter of life and death - is prominently displayed. Ernest Japhet's pension is, no doubt, one of the wonders of the world and deserving of a place in the Guinness Book of Records. But I have yet to hear of someone dying because someone else gets an inflated pension. Yet, the misfeasance of the Bank Leumi directors is accorded front-page treatment for days on end. However, the road accident figures for 1986, which contain a plethora of death and bereavement, of injury and agony, of mental and physical destruction, are tucked away somewhere on the inside pages.

An item in *The Jerusalem Post* on January 2nd reports that in 1986 there was a 13 per cent increase in road accidents, with 21,000 people injured. Is this fact really less important than Mr. Nissim's economic programme or Mr. Murphy's peregrinations in the Middle East? Or is it that people have become injured to death and tragedy?

It would hardly seem so. When a family perishes in a conflagration, the whole country is shaken, and rightly so. But when informed that there were 21,000 injured in road accidents, people tend to move on to the next item. This indifference probably stems from a feeling that road accidents are just one of the facts we have to live with and there is nothing to be done about them.

Nothing could be further from the truth.

There are a number of measures which can - and should - be taken, especially the widening of some roads and the building of new ones. But the steps take time. The situation is desperate and needs remedial action now.

There is something that could be done now, without a major budget increase. Legislation could be passed making the wearing of seat belts compulsory at all times and not just for inter-city travel, as is the case at the moment.

Quoting Professor Ya'acov Adler, head of the emergency department of Jerusalem's Shaare Zedek Hospital, Judy Siegel wrote in *The Post* of January 7 that "studies conducted abroad show that the wearing of seat belts at all times cuts the fatality rate by an average of 25 per cent. In addition, the severity of all injuries is reduced."

There are, of course, arguments against seat belts, but the evidence in their favour is overwhelming. In *Iacocca, an Autobiography*, the head of Chrysler Corporation writes: "A famous study by the University of North Carolina surveyed traffic accidents and determined that

seat belts reduced serious injuries by up to 50 per cent and fatal injuries by as much as 75 per cent."

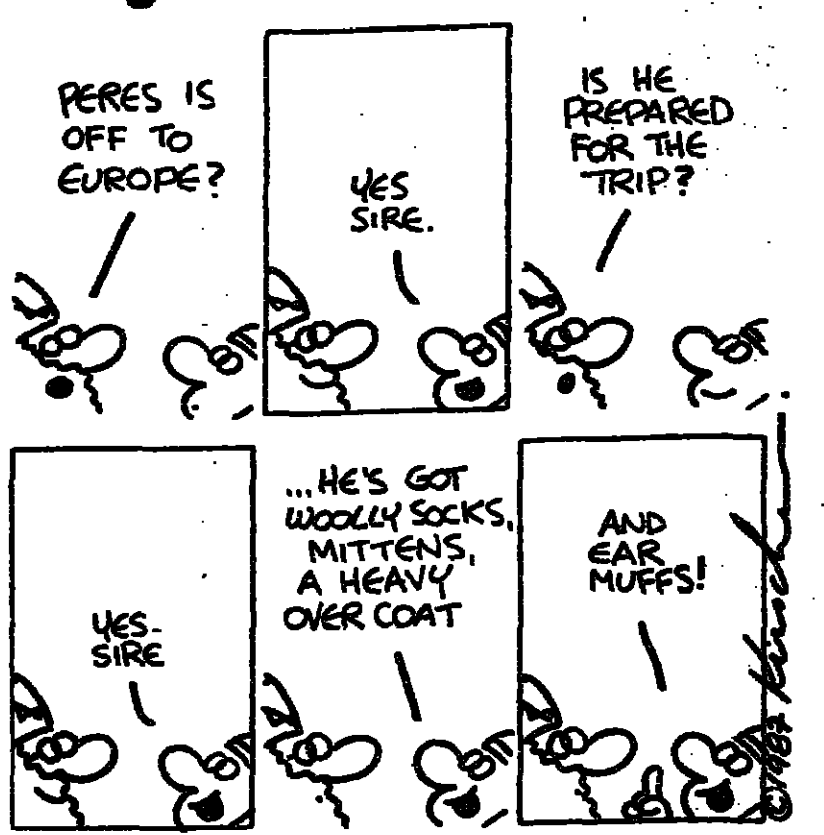
And again, "Yet another argument is that seat belts are really necessary only for highway driving. But what many people don't realize is that 80 per cent of all accidents and known injuries occur in urban areas at speeds of less than 40 mph."

In the January 8 edition of *The Post* Judy Siegel quotes Knesset Member Uriel Lynn: "Lynn estimates conservatively that requiring drivers and passengers to wear seat belts at all times would save 15 to 38 lives a year and would reduce serious injuries by 220 to 500 annually, and all injured by 2,000 to 3,000."

Since motor vehicles are equipped with seat belts, no additional investment would be required. We thus have a measure which is waiting to be taken and which has proved itself to be a lifesaver. Why public opinion isn't clamouring for its enactment is beyond comprehension. But whether the measure has popular support or not, it is clearly the government's duty to introduce the necessary legislation at once. Failure to do so means more road injuries and deaths.

The writer is a free-lance journalist.

Dry Bones



READERS' LETTERS

INJURED HUSBANDS

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post*: Sir, - I am compelled to comment on Lea Levavi's column, "Is there a compromise to be found?" (January 11).

I have much to say on the subject of the injured husband in contrast to the constant stream of articles supporting the poor mistreated wife, but I will content myself with one specific point.

Earlier in her article, Miss Levavi quotes the example of a woman who refused to allow her estranged husband the right to see their child. In retaliation, the husband refused to grant a divorce. The so-called "mediator," Miriam Fischer, seemed to be quite proud of her suggestion to the husband that he should grant the divorce in order to be able to remarry and "have other children."

Not only does Fischer say nothing in condemnation of the woman for

refusing a father the natural right to see his own child, she also assumes, as do virtually all of her professional colleagues, that the father has no more feeling for his children than he would have for, say, a washing-machine, TV or car which he can just go out and replace.

It is no wonder that I and many other unfortunate husbands tend to be "obstructive" to the wishes of selfish and destructive wives when we know that all the scales are weighted in favour of the poor helpless wife!

It is positively nauseating the way women's organizations and social workers pretend to be impartial and neutral. Only too frequently do they let slip and show the automatic bias which they claim is non-existent in their world.

SELWYN R. ROSE
Bror Hayil.

VISIONARY PROJECTS

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post*: Sir, - Professor Yuval Ne'eman makes an interesting argument in his two-part article (January 12 and 13) comparing the daring vision of the political leadership during the Ben-Gurion era with the managerial style that characterizes current policy making. He suggests that the correctness of visionary policies cannot be proved by numbers and that this is what leads policy managers, preoccupied with their calculations, astray.

Ne'eman supports this argument by describing a number of cases - water desalination, nuclear power, solar energy - in which promising projects were abandoned presumably because of a short-sighted concern about immediate economic considerations.

Whether or not what we need at present is more government-sponsored projects, such as the Lavi, or more private initiative is another matter.

ROBERT GOODMAN
Herziya.

THE FIXERS

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post*: Sir, - Philip Gillon (Telereview January 9) is quite right about Avraham Shalom and Rafi Eitan. Informing the public is a good first step. But it must be followed up by action which will force them out of their cushy jobs.

It outrages me to see these two rewarded without a public or media outcry. We must not cynically accept this flagrant case of cynical corruption.

ELI RUDEN
Ra'anana.

ERNEST JAPHET

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post*: Sir, - Isn't the bottom line relevant? Isn't Bank Leumi a top institution respected locally and internationally? Wouldn't the Israeli economy and many Israeli families be in a healthier position if they attained Bank Leumi's status?

Let's face it. It is these Iacocca qualities that have made the United States so attractive. Therefore more credit to Ernest Japhet if he can make it.

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